



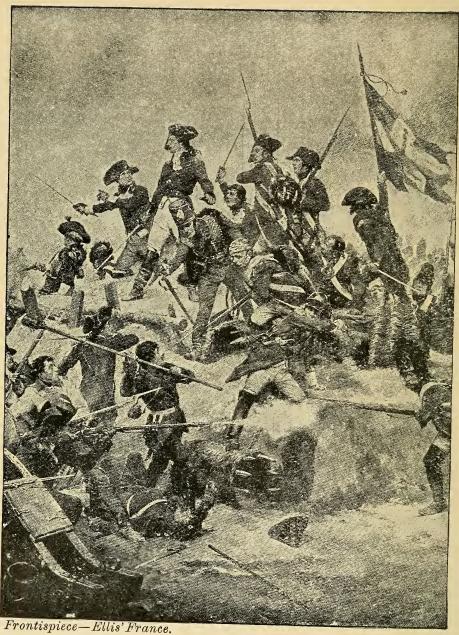
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The Battle of Jemappes, November 6, 1792.

# YOUNG PEOPLE'S HISTORY of FRANCE

M

EDWARD S. ELLIS, A. M.

With One Hundred and Fifteen Illustrations

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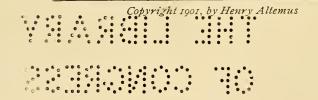
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## INTRODUCTION.

NE thing is to be said concerning the history of France: it is instructive, for it includes every system of government that the ingenuity of man can devise and some that none but a Frenchman could evolve. From the bottom to the top and then down again, the whole gamut has been run. France has been ruled by savages, who made no pretensions of being anything else, and by men who claimed to be civilized and yet were ten times worse than the unadulterated savage. She has had monsters of villainy seated on her throne and holding the scales of life and death; she has had good men and wise statesmen for her rulers; she has been an aristocracy, a monarchy, an absolute despotism, a Commune, which is another name for an orgie of murderers, who feared not God, man nor the devil, and of late years and at present she seems to be a Republic.

France is a wonderful nation; she knows how to worship a man as a demi-god to-day and to lop off his head to-morrow. She produced the greatest military genius the world ever saw; her scholars, wits, scientists, discoverers, explorers, philosophers, poets, dramatists, his-

torians, novelists, essayists, sculptors and painters have

never been surpassed anywhere.

No country has given birth to more wicked or to better men; no nation has been so pitilessly humiliated or exalted to more dizzying heights of glory. Her dreamers have turned dreams into materialities; her realities have dissolved into baseless visions; she has gone down in blood and flame to the lowest depths of despair and then leaped to a height that made all the world wonder; she is great to-day and in her history are to be found lessons of absorbing interest, of amazing length and breadth and of profound and far-reaching importance to mankind.



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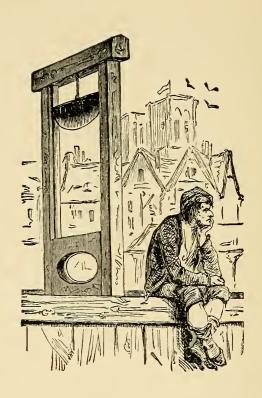
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Frontispiece to a History of France printed in 1493.

#### ALTEMUS' YOUNG PEOPLE'S

## HISTORY OF FRANCE

#### CHAPTER I.

THE EARLY HISTORY OF GAUL OR FRANCE.

ONE knows who first settled Gaul, as France was called in its earliest days. For that matter, no one knows who first settled any country. When the white men discovered America, they found the Indians here. Then it was learned than the mound builders were ahead of the Indians, and now every one is satisfied that the mound builders were the Indians themselves, and that when Columbus first saw Guanahani (gwa'na ha'nee) island, the red men on the continent were engaged in building their vast mounds to serve as burial places for their dead. Who were ahead of the mound builders?

In Central China you will find to-day a community of Jews, whose history runs back into the dim past beyond all records. Many think they are the descendants of one of the Lost Tribes of Israel, but that is only guesswork.

For generations, histories have stated that the earliest ruler of whom there is any knowledge was Menes, founder of the first dynasty in Egypt, who lived some 5,000 years before the birth of our Saviour; but within a short time past, the tombs of a number of kings, all of whom flourished before Menes, have been brought to light. One of these days, the truth will be known and we must wait until that time in order to gain certain

knowledge.

Now as to France, the first accounts that can be relied on take us back to a period about 600 years before Christ. It was then a land covered with vast stretches of gloomy forests, where the streams froze in winter and the people were as wild and as untamed as the beasts that prowled in the trackless woods. They lived their savage life until a horde of Celts or Gauls swarmed down from the direction of Germany and hustled the original owners out of the country, just as we did with the Indians and just as England does when she covets some rich country.

Those Gauls were terrible fellows, who loved nothing so dearly as fighting and killing other people. They wore breeches, a tunic and a striped cloak something like the plaid of the Scotch Highlanders of to-day. When one of them overcame a foe, he made sure of putting him beyond the power of doing further harm, by cutting off his head. They were of massive build, blue-eyed and light haired, and so fierce in their ways, that they may be considered as so many snarling wild beasts that had learned to travel on their hind legs. They dwelt in caves and

rude huts, and roved about with their immense herds of cattle, whose skins were traded with Grecian or Phœni-

cian merchants for strong drink and trinkets.

Finding they could not get enough fighting at home, the Gauls plunged into other countries and swung their clubs, axes and swords and hurled their spears with an effect that filled their hearts with delight. They successfully invaded Greece, Spain and Africa and threw even imperial Rome into a shiver of fright. They repeatedly crossed the Alps, swooped down on the vine-yards of Italy, and finally in the year 390 B. C., captured Rome and held possession of it for nearly a year. That was the time when the citadel was saved by the squawking of a flock of geese, which gave notice one night of the stealthy approach of the Gauls. At last the Romans paid the Gauls to go away and leave them alone.

More than twenty years later, the Gauls made another visit and carried their conquest to the very walls of Rome, whose inhabitants were cooped up for a dozen years. Then the savages went off again and made permanent settlements in the valleys of the Po. They were densely ignorant and superstitious, and the very kind of people to be ruled by the ferocious priests of the Druids, who fattened upon their ignorance. Those Druids were the real rulers who made and enforced their merciless laws. Their places of worship were in the sombre depths of groves, where in the soft twilight, they indulged in their frightful ceremonies. The oak to them was a sacred tree and the mistletoe, when found clinging to it, was believed to have miracu-

lous healing powers. Often the priests offered up human sacrifices, whose sufferings were prolonged to a horrifying degree. The victims were slowly killed with



"He was a giant in stature."

a knife or placed in wooden cages and tortured with flames, their outcries and moans making sweet music in the ears of the priests.

The Greeks were so frightened by the attacks of the Gauls that they begged the Romans to protect them. The Romans sent an officer and an army who built two towns, Aix (ase or akes) and Narbonne, and made war on the Gauls, who sent a messenger to the Roman camp. He was a giant in stature, and was accompanied by a

bard who sang the praises of his clan, the Arverni. There were other attendants, but his chief guards were a pack of enormous hounds. The messenger, in the name of his chief, Bituitus, ordered the Romans to leave the country and cease to harm the Gauls. The Roman general turned his back contemptuously upon the messenger, who returned in anger to his chief, and preparations were made for battle. The result was indecisive, but Bituitus was soon afterward made prisoner, sent to Italy, and kept a



"The priests offered up human sacrifices." 2—Ellis' France.

captive for the remainder of his life. His son was educated as a Roman and sent back to his people to teach them to be friends to Rome.

The Gauls lost much of their war-like spirit, as they became partly civilized. The German tribes on the shores of the Baltic and North seas swept their country in a vast flood, which nothing could stand against.



The German Invasion of Gaul.

Flushed with their success, these new barbarians determined to drive out the Gauls and then capture Rome. Marius the Roman general saw the peril, and, marching with a powerful army into Gaul, he met the invaders in the year 102 B. C. near Aix and in a terrific battle in which more than a hundred thousand men were left dead, utterly defeated them.

This crushing victory saved Rome, but did not keep

the Franks, as they were called, out of Gaul. Those who settled near the ocean were called Salian Franks, while those who dwelt by the Rhine and the Meuse (muze) were Ripuarian Franks. The three tribes that thus peopled Gaul, were the Burgundians, who settled in the southeastern part, the Visigoths in the southwest and the Franks in the northeastern portion. The last named were the warriors, the others being more peaceful in their ways.

The religious belief of the Franks, generally known as the Scandinavian Mythology, was a savage creed. Their chief deities were Odin and Thor, the latter being the god of war, who was believed to be capable of slaying thousands with one stroke of his gigantic battle axe; but he was mortal, and when he felt the approach of death,

killed himself with the point of his lance.

Fifty-eight years before the birth of our Saviour, Julius Cæsar entered Gaul with a Roman army to conquer the German invaders and to take possession of the country for Rome. His object was to extend the dominion of Rome and to gain wealth, fame and political power for himself. It required nine years to complete his work. He divided the country into three districts; that of the Belgians in the north, that of the Celts or Gauls in the centre, and that of the Aquitanians in the southwest. The written history of Gaul begins with this conquest, for, as you know, Cæsar wrote a history of his doings in Gaul. He says the people consisted of three classes—the nobles, whose sole business was fighting; the priests or Druids, who were the religious teachers, judges, physicians and educators, and the slaves.

The Gauls were split into many tribes, who hated one another too intensely to unite against the invaders, and naturally, therefore, the disciplined legions of Rome triumphed. Roman civilization spread among the conquered people. One of the places captured by Cæsar was a miserable village of mud huts on a swampy island in the Seine (sane). The Gauls called it a name which meant Mud Town, and the tribe who lived there were the Parisii (pa-ris'i-i). The Romans built a temple to Jupiter on the spot, which later gave way to the Cathedral of Notre-Dame (notr'-dam), while Mud Town in time became Paris, the most beautiful city in the world.

Stately towns and cities arose all over Gaul, modeled after those of Rome; schools, colleges and libraries sprang up; literature and art were cultivated; a modified form of Latin language took the place of that of the Gauls, and Roman law supplanted the barbaric rule of the country. A grand era of prosperity and progress seemed to have come to Gaul, for peace prevailed; industry ruled; taxes were light; agriculture improved; justice was administered to all; the cultivation of corn, the olive and the vine became general; the climate grew milder and softer through the cutting down of the immense forests; there were extensive manufactures of iron, bronze, jewelry, armor, weapons and tools, and the commerce of the old city of Marseille (mar-sale') originally founded by the Greeks, united Gaul with all the countries along the Mediterranean.

Perhaps this blessed condition of affairs might have lasted and even improved, but for Rome, which had

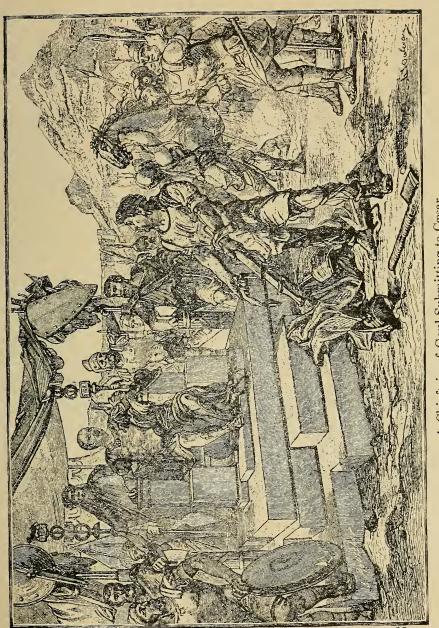


Odin Hunting with his Wolves, Geri and Freki.

brought it about. That once proud "mistress of the world" had become rotten to the core and was crumbling to pieces through quarrels, jealousies and civil war. When a fountain is corrupt it cannot give forth pure water, and the heel of the master was now ground upon the throat of the servant. The wealthy Romans bought up the small farms of Gaul and turned them into cattle and sheep pastures, tended by their slaves; taxes became intolerable, for the debauched rulers in Rome clamored for more and more money to gratify their vile appetites. Every farmer had to give each third bushel of grain to the tax gatherer for the government, and then the tax gatherer robbed his victim for his own benefit. The rich became richer and the poor poorer, and the condition of Gaul grew more hopeless than when under the rule of the ruthless savages centuries before.

Meanwhile a new and mysterious power stole into Gaul and began its work. At some date in the second century Christianity reached that country. There is a tradition that the Apostle Paul preached there, but of this nothing is known with certainty. Be that as it may, this new influence steadily advanced and grew. At first the Romans treated it with indifference. They cared nothing for religion so long as it did not interfere with their purposes. But as it spread they saw that its spirit was opposed to their own institutions. A Roman soldier who had been converted to Christianity was ordered to kneel before a bronze image of the emperor, but refused, and was deemed guilty almost of treason.

The new faith declared that there was a higher power



A Chieftain of Gaul Submitting to Cæsar.

When Vercingetorix, the noblest representative of his nation, was brought before Cæsar, he threw down his weapons and exclaimed: "Do with me as you will, but spare my people."

and authority than that of Cæsar, and its missionaries were preaching that faith everywhere and winning thousands. Rome considered it high time to root out this



The Night before the Spectacle: a Christian Martyr under the Arena.

pestilent religion which threatened to overturn everything, and then began a persecution whose ferocity was like that of the Chinese "Boxers." The evangelists and missionaries were tortured to death, often for the amusement of the Roman populace. Lions and tigers were half starved that

they might become the fiercer in tearing men, women and

children to death in the circuses while the bloated spectators shouted with delight. Nothing that human ingenuity could devise was forgotten in adding to these horrible scenes of sufering.

But all in vain. It has been said that the blood of the martyrs was the seed of the Church, and persecution only aided the development of true Christianity. A won-



Vision of the Emperor Constantine.

derful change took place in the fourth century. Constantine, the great Roman emperor, while engaged on one of his military expeditions, about 312, had a vision like that of Saul of Tarsus, for in the sky before him appeared an immense cross with the inscription "in hoc vince," meaning, "with this you will conquer." Constantine became a convert to Christianity and straightway began his work of reform. Having won an easy victory, he adopted the cross as his standard, abolished many of the obscene pagan rites, compelled Sunday to be respected and all work to stop on that day, caused the Christian churches which had been destroyed to be rebuilt, abolished the consulting of oracles and the fights of the gladiators, and in 325 assembled the first universal council of Nicæ.

The change was far reaching and amazing. The idols that reared their hideous forms all over the country were pulled down and gave place to crosses and crucifixes, and when some of the timid peasants stole in among the Druidical oaks, which because of their grandeur and majesty, were spared, they saw the image of the Virgin looking mildly down upon them from among the leaves and branches. Then in time monasteries and convents were founded, and the monks and nuns lived by cultivating the soil, something which until then had been looked upon as fit only for slaves. Gradually, too, the bishops and clergy became more influential than the magistrates.

So, despite the cruelty and tyranny of Rome, she did much that was good for Gaul, where was founded one

of the greatest nations of modern times.

## CHAPTER II.

## THE MEROVINGIANS.—418-752.

In the fifth century, the Huns, a frightful people, whose homes were on the plains of Tartary, began to ravage Europe. They were like so many wild beasts, and their terrible leader, Attila, bore the awful title of "The Scourge of God." Many looked upon him and his vast horde as so many demons loosed for a season that they might devastate the world. He compelled the Romans who had exacted tribute so many times from other nations, to pay tribute to him. Then with an army that is said to have numbered a million warriors, he crossed the Rhine and burst into Gaul, like a tidal wave from the ocean.

There seemed no hope for any people that might find themselves in the path of the wrathful Scourge; but knowing their desperate peril, Gauls, Romans, Visigoths, Burgundians and Franks threw aside their own quarrels and presented a combined front to Attila and his hosts. At Chalons (shal-on'), in the Catalaunian plains, in the year 451, was fought one of the decisive battles of the world. Attila was defeated and Western Europe was saved to the races that have carried it to the fore of civilization and progress.

Now, if you will examine the list of sovereigns of

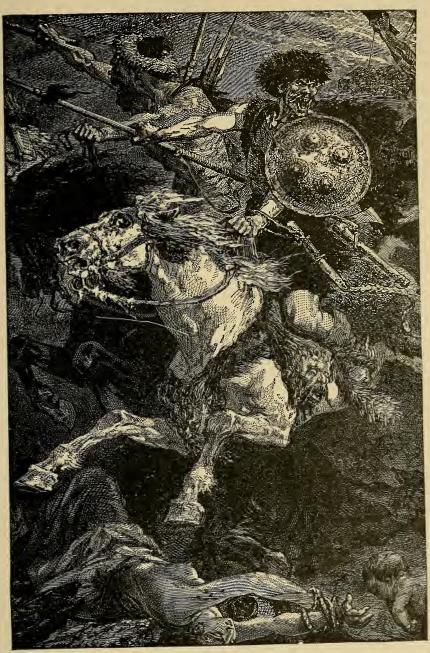
France, as given at the end of this history, you will note that the first name is that of Pharamond. He belonged to a powerful Frank family named Meroving, which meant "mighty warrior." They were Salian Franks, who, as you remember, dwelt along the sea shore. Pharamond was one of the princes of the Meroving family and became so influential in Gaul that he is generally looked upon as the first King of France.

The history of those early rulers is so jumbled and bloody, that I shall pass over it briefly. Pharamond who began his rule in 418, was succeeded in 428 by his son Clodion, who died broken hearted in 447, because of the death of his son, and was succeeded by Merovæus, a prince of the Merovingian family. It was he who united his forces with the Roman generals and helped to win

the great victory over Attila.

Childeric was a boy at the time of the death of Morovæus, his father, and for a time was kept out of his rights, but he gained them in 458 and ruled until 481. Childeric I. was a fairly decent person, and had a few good qualities, but he was about the only one of the Merovingians of whom this can be said. Most of them were as mean, treacherous and despicable as a man can be and still live.

Clovis, eldest son of Childeric, succeeded him in 481, and I must tell you a few things about him. At the time of his father's death, Clovis was only fifteen years old, but he was chief of a body of renowned fighters. Although Rome had fallen, she still had authority in the district of Soissons (almost swi-son) in the upper Seine



The Huns Invading the Territory of the Gauls.

(sane) valley. Clovis captured this place in 486, turned out the Roman governor, and made his residence his own.

This success made Clovis master of all Gaul north of the Loire (lwar), excepting Brittany, whose chiefs formed an alliance with him. Soissons contained a large amount of treasure and the soldiers of Clovis gathered much plunder. All they found was brought forth and piled into an immense heap. Some of the stuff was taken from neighboring places, and, among the treasures was a splendid vase of chased gold, stolen from the cathedral at Rheims (remz). The bishop begged Clovis to return it. While dividing the treasure, Clovis asked that the vase be allowed to him, his intention being to give it to the bishop.

Hardly, however, had Clovis laid his hand on it, when a soldier sprang forward and shattered the vase with his battle axe, exclaiming that the king should not receive more than his share. Clovis turned and looked angrily

at the soldier, but did not speak.

A year later Clovis had become so great that no one dared gainsay his will or find fault with anything he did. At a grand parade of the king's soldiers, he recognized the man who had smashed the vase a year before. He beckoned him to draw near. As the soldier obeyed, Clovis snatched his spear from his grasp and flung it on the ground. The soldier stooped to pick it up, when the king brought down his battle axe with the remark: "I serve you as you served the vase at Soissons."

The soldier's head being no harder than the vase, was

cracked and his power was ended for doing mischief.



"I serve you as you served the vase at Soissons."

Clovis made his home in Paris, which thus became the capital of Francia, the land of the western Franks. The Church was so beset by enemies on every hand that it was anxious to secure a champion and now turned to Clovis. His wife was an orthodox Catholic, and, though he listened to her gentle persuasions, he still hesitated to become a Christian; but while engaged in a battle with a horde of Germans near Strasburg, with the result doubtful, he called for divine help, and promised to become a Christian if the Lord would give him victory, as if such a proposed bargain can have any effect with the Ruler of all. However, Clovis did win the fight, professed Christianity and 3000 of his followers did the same.

Fired by the zeal of a new convert as well as by ambition, he conquered the Burgundians and they became good Catholics. Then he served the Visigoths in the same manner and left them only a narrow strip of seacoast north of the Pyrenees. At that time, the title of Pope was not limited to the bishop of Rome, but was held by the bishops generally. The Bishop of Rome, in gratitude for the services rendered by Clovis, conferred upon him the title of "Eldest Son of the Church," and "Most Noble Christian King." That he did good service cannot be denied, but he committed murders and crimes without number mainly to clear the way for his sons to become his successors. He died in 511, and, having divided France into four districts, left them to his four heirs as follows:

Thierry I.—Austrasia or Metz; Clodomir, Orleans;



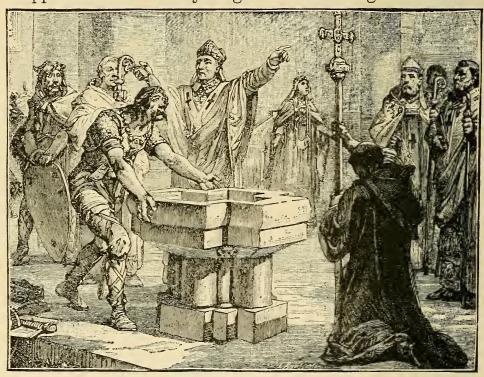
France.

Choosing a King After the Battle of Chalons, on the Catalaunian Plains.

was swollen high with blood. Theodoric, the king of the Visigoths, was slain, and his son, Thorismund, was raised on a shield and acclaimed his successor on the battlefield. The slaughter at the fearful contest on the Catalaunian plains was so terrible that a brook which crossed the field

33

Childebert I., Paris; Clotaire I., Soissons or Nuestria. Quarreling, crime and misery followed this arrangement. The sons were intensely jealous of one another, and stopped at no treachery to gain an advantage. Clodomir



The Baptism of Clovis.

had three little boys, and, to secure Orleans for themselves, Childebert and Clotaire murdered two, but the third got away from them through the help of friends. His name was Cleodald, and, as he grew to manhood, he showed his wisdom by letting kingly honors alone and dying the death of a Christian hermit. The palace of

Saint Cloud now stands on the spot where this excellent



"Childebert and Clotaire murdered two."

and sensible man lived more than a thousand years ago.

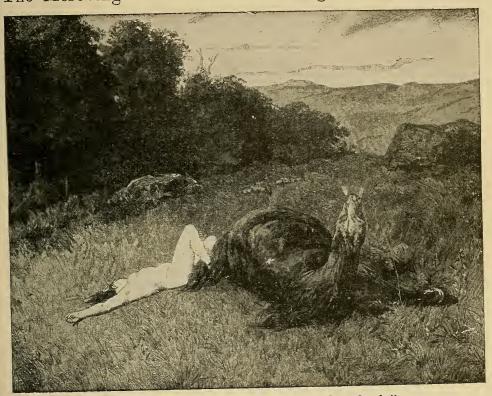
All of his brothers being dead, Clotaire became king of the whole of France in 558. Then, being sated with crime and wrenched with remorse, he passed away in 561, first dividing his kingdom among his four sons. Of these, Caribert died within a year in Paris, and Chilperic I., of Soissons, partitioned the kingdom with his brother, Sigebert, of Austrasia, and Gentran, of Orleans or Burgundy. Probably no wickeder women ever lived than Fredegonde, wife of Chilperic, and Brunehaut, wife of Sigebert. Their ambition and mutual hatred caused the most atrocious feuds between the brothers. Fredegonde caused Sigebert to be murdered, and there is little doubt that she hired assassins to put her own husband out of the way.

Clotaire II. succeeded his father Chilperic, but being a mere boy, his mother governed the kingdom, with the aid of the mayor of the palace. She died suddenly, and Brunehaut some years later, by order of Clotaire was stripped naked and fastened to a wild horse and dragged

to death.

Dagobert I. became king in 628. He proved the best of a very bad lot, and reigned not only over Austrasia and Nuestria, but over most of the people of Gaul from the Pyrenees to the Rhine and beyond the Rhine on the east to the forests of Central Germany; but when he died ten years later the decline began. His successors were mentally weak, with some of them hardly above the grade of fools. The office of Mayor of the Palace, or Major Domi, as he was called, grew in importance. At first the duty of these officers was to help the king manage his kingdom, but they were now called upon to manage the king him-

self, which was not so hard since the monarchs had not enough spirit to resent being led around by the nose. The Merovingians who succeeded Dagobert are spoken of



"Fastened to a wild horse and dragged to death."

in history as the "Sluggard Kings," the real name given to them meaning "Do-Nothing Kings."

They wore long hair as a sign of royalty, but were so wan and effeminate that a sturdy American boy of twelve years could have made footballs of the whole lot. Had you been living in those times you might have seen one of them riding from one of his immense farms to another in a covered cart drawn by oxen, whose plodding gait just suited their tastes. Arriving at a farm they would manage to rouse sufficiently to climb out with the help of their assistants and begin eating and drinking, which they kept up until everything was gone, when they would allow their servants to lift them into the cart again and be dragged to the next farm. By that time the king would be hungry and thirsty again, and resume his former carousal, then going home to sleep until he could think of some other pleasure to be gratified.

It isn't worth while to particularize further. You will find the list of the good-for-nothings at the end of this history, and it isn't interesting to read the record of a lot of fools, who rarely or never roused themselves to action unless to commit some crime. The real rulers of the country were the mayors and the priests who acted together. The Church did vast good, for without it the country must have lapsed into barbarism. It taught the ignorant, protected the helpless, and fed the starving. Moreover, in the Church all ranks were leveled and a

slave might become a priest or a pope.

A strange power threatened the country in the latter part of the Merovingian dynasty. Mohammed born in Mecca, Arabia, in 570, was a remarkable man and military leader. He claimed to be the prophet of God, and the book which contains his laws and teaching is called the Koran. Thousands of people flocked to his standard, and when he died at Medina (me-dee-nah) in 630, he had become the founder of one of the religions of the world, whose believers to-day number nearly 200,000,000.



Mohammed Preaches the Unity of God in Mecca.

When about forty years of age, Mohammed, moved to teach a new faith, declared himself the prophet of an all-mighty, all-wise, everlasting, all-just, but merciful God. He was sincere and earnest in his teachings, yet left to his successors a military religion to be propagated by arms.

The Saracens under Mohammed's successors were so thrilled with wild fanaticism that in the eighth century they set out to conquer all other nations. They



The King and his Major Domi.

brought Egypt, Northern Africa and Spain into subjection, and then resolved to subjugate France, Germany, İtaly and Constantinople and unite them into one vast empire. It was a colossal ambition and it was not unnatural that the Mohammedans should have had absolute faith in its success. The Saracens crossed the Pyrenees in 732 and swept everything before them. Multitudes of Christians gave up in despair, believing the end was at hand, and that no human

power could check the triumph of Mohammedism.

In the face of the awful peril, the deliverer appeared in the person of Charles, a new Mayor of the Palace, who seized the Church lands and distributed them among those who agreed to help him turn back the Moslem invasion. The two enemies met at Tours (toor) in 732. The battle raged all day, and it is said that Charles with his ponderous battle axe beat down the frantic Saracens, as if he wielded a weapon forged by a thunderbolt. Thou

sands of the invaders were slain, and another of the decisive battles of the world was won. The fearful invasion was turned back, and a measureless service rendered to Christendom, for, but for this victory, the Mohammedans would have penetrated to the heart of Europe and crushed out the Christian religion. On that memorable day, Charles won the title of Charles Martel, or Charles the

Sledge Hammer.

On the death of Thierry III. no new election of king was made. Charles Martel went to Italy to aid Pope Gregory III. in repelling the invasion of the Lombards. He died there, leaving the duties and dignities of his office to his sons Pepin and Carloman. The latter, though a good warrior, soon withdrew to a monastery, leaving Pepin sole ruler and king in all but name. Twenty years after the battle of Tours, Pepin sent messengers to the Pope of Rome asking that his title of king should be formally acknowledged, and the Pope consented. In the spring of 752, Archbishop Boniface anointed Pepin with holy oil, and placed the crown upon his head. Next, Childeric, the last of the "Sluggard Kings" was shorn of his dangling locks as a sign that his feeble reign and that of his stupid family was ended.

Pepin, despite his very short stature, possessed dauntless courage and prodigious strength. Being present once in the amphitheatre, when a lion was pitted against a bull, he called out to the spectators: "The combatants

are unequal! Who will separate them?"

As no one volunteered, Pepin leaped into the arena, cleft the lion's skull, and then with a single sweep of his

sword cut off the head of the bull. "There," said he, turning to the spectators, "you call me 'le Bref' in derision, but am I not as worthy of being your king as the

tallest man among you?"

Pepin had been king only a short time when the Pope, alarmed by the inroads of the Lombards, implored his aid. Pepin gathered his warriors, drove the Lombards back, retook the captured cities and, gathering the keys of the gates, placed them on the altar of St. Peter's. Thus the Pope was made not only master of Rome, but of a large district beside, and temporal sovereignty of the Papacy was established to last for many centuries.

## CHAPTER III.

## CARLOVINGIANS.—752–987.

PEPIN having rendered his important service to the Pope of Rome, started to return home. He had with him his son Charles, and, upon reaching Tours the father was seized with a mortal illness, but rallied sufficiently to reach Paris. There, feeling that death was at hand, he called the nobles and bishops together and divided his kingdom between his sons, Charles and Carloman. Then he died and was buried in Saint Denis (dee-nee').

Carloman did not live long, and his brother Charles became the sole ruler of the kingdom. He is known in



King Pepin Cuts Off the Head of a Lion and of a Bull.

history as Charles the Great or Charlemagne (sharlmane). His German name was Karl, and later Karl the Great. In after years, the epitaph set over the tomb of Pepin was:

"Pepin, Father of Charlemagne."

This monarch proved himself one of the greatest men that ever lived. He was daring, wise and ambitious; he aimed to bring about unity, system and order in his dominions, was vigorous and untiring, and he seemed to possess within himself every quality for the wonderfully successful ruler of which his country stood in sore need at that time.

The government of Charlemagne extended over a widely scattered people, and a territory much larger than the France of to-day, and he found that his task was a gigantic one. The Aquitanians in the southwest rebelled, and he reduced them to obedience. Then the Lombards again invaded the country which his father had given to the Pope, and that potentate once more begged for help. Charlemagne marched against the Lombards, overcame them, annexed their country to his own, and confirmed the Pope in the possessions, which, but for Charlemagne, would have slipped away from him. He was crowned King of the Lombards in 774, with the iron crown of Lombardy. Do you know why this crown bears that singular name? Through the inner golden circlet of the crown runs a thin iron wire which tradition says was beaten out from one of the nails taken from the cross on which the Saviour was crucified. This is incredible.

Charlemagne was an ardent champion of Christianity. To the north, beyond the Rhine, the Saxons still clung to the lands, which Cæsar had tried in vain to wrest from them. They were a sturdy, brave people, and when

Charlemagne set out to conquer them, he found the work the hardest of his life. They and the Saxons hated each other and the fighting was desperate and lasted a long time, but in the end Charlemagne prevailed, the Saxon chief submitted (785) and he and all his people were baptized and accepted Christianit v. This con-



Charlemagne.

quest made Charlemagne ruler over nearly all of Germany, but knowing the turbulent character of the

men, and the danger of allowing them to remain united, he removed large numbers and settled them in different parts of France. Thus by breaking the nations into fragments, as may be said, he so weakened their power, that he felt little fear of more revolts. Then, in order to be within easy striking distance of the Saxons who stayed at home, he made his capital at Aix-la-Chapelle (akes la-shah-pel'), which is near the Rhine.

Charlemagne next turned his attention to Spain, where the Moors in the northern part had revolted against Mohammedan authority. They begged Charlemagne to go to their help and promised to become his subjects if he would do so. He marched across the Pyrenees and occupied several of their cities. By that time, the Moors began to fear that their new master would prove a harsher one than their old, and they were base enough to turn against their powerful friend, who found his situation so dangerous, that he decided to withdraw from the country. He started along the old Roman road leading from Spain to France, through the narrow pass of Roncesvalles (ron-se-val'les). The main army made the passage safely, and the rear guard followed under the command of Roland, his nephew, a brave and noble-hearted knight, whom the Moors hated because of his many chivalrous deeds and his prowess as a tremendous fighter. In the depths of the wild mountains and in the gloomy pass, where the brave men had no means of defending themselves, the Moors attacked them in overwhelming numbers and with a desperation that nothing could withstand. From above they rolled



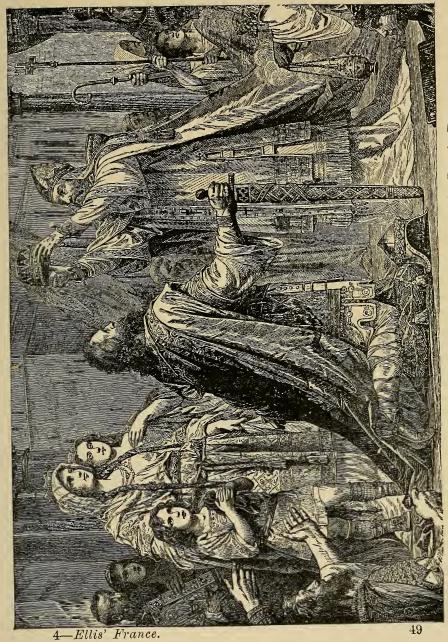
Roland at the Pass of Roncesvalles.

down enormous rocks upon the heads of the soldiers, who, being without any means of escape, were killed to the last man. For many years afterwards the people of Roncesvalles were accustomed to point out to strangers this valley, half-filled with rocks, which was called "Roland's Tomb." The sad incident has been celebrated,

many a time in song and story.

But Charlemagne's fighting was not over. A violent outbreak took place among the Saxons, who burned the churches built by the missionaries, killed the preachers and drove the Christians out of the country. Upon the approach of Charlemagne with a strong army, the Saxons were terrified and made their submission; but the angry King demanded that the rebels should be given up. Four thousand five hundred were brought to his camp, and the stern ruler caused every one to be put to death. Roused to frenzy, the Saxons revolted again, and Charlemagne ravaged the country with fire and sword. The malcontents were subdued and the novel plan of making Christians not by persuasion but by force was adopted. The Church had many thousands added to it, and, following the plan I have mentioned, Charlemagne settled hundreds of families in different parts of France, where they could set no more rebellions on foot.

When Pope Leo III. ascended the throne, he was seized by a number of conspiring priests, who badly wounded and threw him into prison. Charlemagne hurried to his help and restored his crown to him and you may be sure the Pope was grateful. On Christmas Day, 800, while the King was kneeling at prayer in St. Peter's



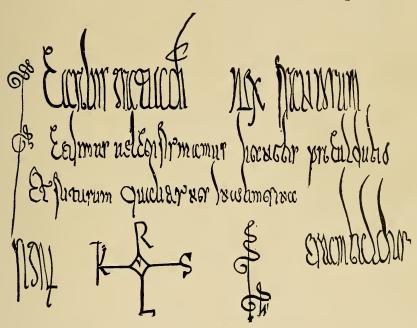
Coronation of Charlemagne as Emperor of the West, in St. Peter's, Rome.

at Rome, the Pope walked up to him, threw a magnificent purple mantle over his shoulders and saluted him as Emperor of the West, a grand title borne by the Roman emperors since the time of Constantine, the first Christian emperor, three centuries before. Charlemagne resolved with the help of the Pope to establish the Holy Roman Empire on a lasting foundation. Europe was to be one

state, one people, and one Church.

This great man was controlled by a great ambition, but he entered upon the vast work with confidence. Aided by a council of nobles and bishops, he prepared a code of laws regulating Church, military and financial affairs, and sent delegates throughout the kingdom to make certain those laws were obeyed. In this way, the poor as well as the rich, were benefited. The old national assemblies, which had fallen into disuse under the Sluggard Kings, were revived and the people elected representatives who took part in the meetings of the assemblies. A true son of the Church, he enforced stricter discipline among the clergy and in the monasteries which had fallen away from their duty. No less important, he established schools all over the kingdom. He felt a profound admiration for learned men, and, lacking education himself, he became one of the hardest of students. compelled the sons of the nobles to study, warning them that if they were idle, they would receive no honors from him. He learned Latin so thoroughly that he could speak it as well as his own tongue. He mastered Greek also, and became an entertaining conversationalist, but though he tried hard to learn to write, he never made much of a success, for he began too late in life.

His example as a student had the best effect upon others. He encouraged commerce, opened new roads, and established great annual fairs, where merchants gathered from all parts of Europe to buy and sell. And yet the task he had laid out for himself was an impossible one,



Signature of Charlemagne. (The Cross with the Four Letters, K. R. L. S.)

mainly because the people over whom he ruled were not of the same race, and their differences could not be fused together. Among his subjects, were Italians, French and Germans, each of whom desired to have their own language, their customs and their laws. With such discordant elements, there could be no real, lasting unity, but through his indomitable genius, Charlemagne held

them in a sort of union during his life. He died in 814, at the age of seventy-two, murmuring in Latin, "Into Thy hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit."



Statuette of Charle-magne, now in Paris.

Before he died, he summoned his lords and bishops and presented Louis, one of his many sons (for Charlemagne was a polygamist with numerous children), as their future sovereign and placed a crown on his head, which he had just rested on the altar. Louis was king of Aquitaine, during the latter part of his father's reign.

In obedience to his last wishes, the body of Charlemagne was interred in a splendid tomb in the church of Saint Marie, and propped up in a royal chair of state, with a sceptre in his hand and an open Bible on his lap, and his feet resting on a buckler given to him by Leo III.; but the attempt to make his lifeless

magne, now in Paris. body a material image of lasting power was vain. Those who came after him were pygmies as compared with him, and the magnificent empire he had

created soon began to crumble to pieces.

If you will look over the list of kings who succeeded Charlemagne, you will notice such nicknames as the "Bald," the "Fat," the "Stammerer," the "Simple," and finally. "le Faineant," which really meant "Fool." Had France been compelled to depend upon these incapables, she never would have reached her leading place among European nations, but other men with brains and

ability took part in the all-important work.

Under Charlemagne and his successors, the feudal system, as it is called, came into existence. It was in 877, that the principle of hereditary feudal descent was clearly established.

Going back to the time when the Franks first invaded Gaul, each raiding band was distinct



A Feudal Castle.

from the others and sometimes hostile to them. After

every victory, the chief of a band and his followers divided the plunder. When they settled in a country they partitioned the land in the same way. Still later, the men who received it bound themselves to render military service to the chiefs from whom they had the land. The example of the chiefs was followed by the leading men, who finding they had more land than they needed, granted a portion of it to poorer persons, who bound themselves to give their military services to the donor when he needed them.

Besides these two classes, there were a great many men who held independently a few acres of land, and who, therefore, owed no military service to anyone; but, in an age when might made right, they were without the means of protecting themselves from robbery by their more powerful neighbors. Such robberies were common. The only way the victim could save himself from spoliation was to surrender his modest possessions to some chief or lord, who gave them back on condition that the man should hold himself subject to call for service. In payment for this, the lord or chief bound himself to protect him in the enjoyment of his property.

Besides those named, there were the serfs, who were mostly natives of the country. They were bound to the soil and went with it. While they could not be bought or sold as slaves—the lowest class of all—they were as much a part of an estate as the grass and trees that grew

upon it.

Here, then, you had the feudal system. At the top stood the King; next below were the great lords, who,

among their dependants, were as much king as he; next were the small landholders and then the serfs. The few absolute slaves are not included in the reckoning, since they had no legal rights. The name feudalism meant "landed property." Beginning at the bottom, every man owed service to some one above him, until you reached the King, and starting with him, and going down again, every man owed protection to some one below him, until you got to the bottom.

There was terrible tyranny under the feudal system; yet it was better than anarchy and the intolerable Roman despotism which it supplanted. The treaty of Verdun, made among the three grandsons of Charlemagne, in 843, narrowed the boundaries of France, which no longer extended to the Rhine on the north, or to the Rhone on the southeast, since all the strip of territory, from the Mediterran to the North Sea, was annexed to Italy. Thus was laid the foundation of the three great sovereignties of Italy,

Germany and France.

The far-seeing Charlemagne had warned his countrymen that their real peril was from the piratical Northmen, as the Danes and Norwegians were called. They were daring freebooters, who were continually ravaging their neighbors, and were sure at no distant day to turn their attention to France. The great man had been dead only a short time, when the sea robbers appeared at the mouths of the Loire and Seine. They belonged to the same terrible warriors who had invaded England, Russia, Italy and Spain, and who, five hundred years before Columbus discovered America, settled Iceland and planted colonies on the frozen shores of Greenland.

The laborers fled from the fields along the coast, where the Northmen burned villages and murdered peasants, but when they attempted to seize the lands, the lands rushed



Arrival of the Northmen.

out from their stronguelds and many times showe them because

In 885. Rollo. a giant in stature, sailed up the Seine with 700 vessels and 30,000 warriors and laid siege to the city of Paris. He kept up the siege for more than a year, and then abandoned it and fell

back to Rouen (rwan or roo'en), where he made his headquarters, while attempting to subjugate the surrounding country. Charles the Simple, who was King. offered to give Rollo the territory he had occupied on condition that

he pledged allegiance to him.

The negotiation lasted a long time, the Church acting as the agent. Rollo was offered the King's daughter in marriage and a territory more than 10,000 square miles in extent, having Rouen for its capital, the simple condition being the one named, that Rollo should acknowledge allegiance to the King. The Norse chieftain agreed to the conditions.

The grant was made in solemn form in 912. When

concluded, Rollo was informed that all that remained was for him to kneel and kiss the King's foot. "Never!" was the fierce reply; "I bow to no man, much less kiss his net." But this absurd ceremony was believed to be necessary, and Rollo as finally persuaded to do it by the ordered ne of his warriors to make the obesance for man. The man partly stooped, and, seizing the King's foot, gave it such a sudden hoist that Charles the Simple sprawled over on his back and everybody broke into laughter (excepting the King, who must have felt the appropriateness of his name) at the ridiculous sight.

The Norsemen proved a valuable gain to the country. They accepted the Christian faith, rebuilt the churches and monasteries they had destroyed, and adopted the French tongue and the feudal system. After a time, the province became the most prosperous and most civilized portion of France. The Northmen by and by were called

Normans and their district Normandy.

## CHA!

## CAPETIAN - - 987-1328.

Hugh Capet-Robert II.-Henry 1.-Philos 1. - (287-1109).

PEACE having been nade with the terrible Northmen, the question arose after a time as to who should be King of France. Many were disgusted with the feeble Carlovingians, who steadily grew worse and worse, until none was left who was of the least account at all. Charles the Simple made Laon (lah'own), in the northeast of France his capital. The King and his successors would not speak any language except German, and when there was any trouble with the feudal lords, they scrambled across the border and begged the protection of the German emperor.

The strife between the barons and the Carlovingians lasted until the time of Louis V. the Fool, when happily it ended and the barons or lords in 987, chose Hugh Capet (kap-ay'), one of their number, King. "Capet" was a nickname supposed to mean "cowled," in allusion to the cowl which he wore as lay abbot of several of the chief abbeys of France. Some think the word means the "Stubborn." Be that as it may, the new King was a thorough Frenchman; he was more of a national sovereign through his election by the great nobles of the

north than any of his predecessors had been, and his accession is considered as the beginning of the proper

history of France.

But you must remember several important facts. During the reign of Hugh Capet, the area of France was hardly a twentieth of what it is to-day. Although he was King, he was no more than the nominal head of a number of great lords who considered themselves almost if not quite his equal in authority.

"Who made you count?" he demanded one day, in a dispute with one of his nobles, who, like a flash

answered with the insolent question: "Who made you King?"

Paris was the capital, and the dukedom of Burgundy on the east and Normandy on the west acknowledged allegiance to Hugh Capet, but it meant little, and the King had no national army and no national revenue, being wholly dependent upon his retainers. His short reign was mostly occupied in a struggle for recognition as real King, and he died in 996, leaving his crown to his son Robert the Pious.

For years the belief had been spreading throughout Europe that the world would come to an end in the year 1000. The date was now close at hand, and the awful day when the elements should melt with fervent heat, the heavens be rolled together as a scroll, and God should judge the quick and the dead, drove every other thought from people's minds. The rich and the powerful, as they are impelled to do in the presence of death, thought to make their peace with God by large gifts to the Church; some went into monasteries in atonement for their sins, and others made long pilgrimages to distant lands. The tillers of the soil stopped work and spent the days and nights in agonized prayer. The opening words of all deeds and contracts were, "The end of the world being at hand."

As the year 999 drew to a close, multitudes swarmed into churches and the graveyards were filled with wailing men and women. Prayer and supplication, fasting and scourging, and the moans and cries of anguish burdened the air. Others, conscious of their good and upright lives, waited for the great day in serene hope, knowing that having lived such lives all was well with them.

As the flaming sun rose above the horizon, a hush fell upon the terrified swarms. They were listening for the sound of the last trumpet that was to summon all to answer for the deeds done in the body, and were looking for the appearance of the angel in the heavens. But the minutes of intolerable suspense slowly stretched into hours. The sun climbed the sky, but the graves did not yawn, nor did the angel sound his trumpet. A faint hope sprang up in the hearts of a few. Hours later, some began to whisper that perhaps a mistake had been made, and they ventured to taste of food and to swallow water. Then other days went by, just as they had been doing for years. The rich ruffians came sneaking out of the monasteries; many of those who had been the loudest in prayer, ceased supplicating; others who had bewailed their sins turned to them again. All seemed to forget that that dread day, for which all others are made, when we shall

be judged by One who cannot err, was only postponed; come it will, sooner or later, and you, I and all of us, will be there.

In these modern days, when a famine occurs in any country, people elsewhere speedily send food thither by means of swift steamers, sailing vessels or perhaps railway trains; but a few hundred years ago the case was different, for none of these helps was within reach, and the news could not spread in the brief time that it now takes to become known to all the world. France suffered from a great blight between 1027 and 1033. Men, women and children, in their gnawing hunger, devoured grass, roots, the bark of trees, or anything that would stay for a time the pangs of starvation. The famine grew more dreadful, and then many fell upon one another, and the famishing wild beasts came out of the forests and tore the emaciated people to shreds and fought over their Pestilence added its horrors, and so woful were the days that all conflict stopped and men bound themselves by oaths to make war no more.

But when better times came, the barons renewed their warfare. The indignant Church interfered and partly checked the shameless wickedness by the establishment of the Truce of God, which forbade fighting from Wednesday evening until Monday morning of every week, and during such sacred seasons as Lent and Advent. This was a good step, although, as I have said, it only lessened

the violence and wickedness, without stopping it.

Robert II., who became king in 996, was a pious and humane man, and married his cousin Bertha, a noble

woman. But the Church forbade the marriage of cousins, and the King was ordered to give up his wife. He loved her too dearly to do so, and the Pope excommunicated him—that is to say, he pronounced him accursed and denied to him the privileges and consolations of religion. Next, the Pope launched his most terrifying bolt, by placing France under an *Interdict*. All religious services were forbidden in the kingdom, no bells were tolled for the dead, no marriages were permitted, the sacred pictures and images were veiled in black, no masses were allowed, and, in short, the country was declared outcast from the Church. Bertha was so appalled by the sufferings and misery thus caused, that she begged her husband to leave her. Finally he consented, whereupon she withdrew into a nunnery and soon afterward died.

Robert's second wife, Constance by name, was the very opposite in character to the gentle Bertha. She was ambitious, had a furious temper, and made her husband so afraid of her, that she compelled him to consent to the execution of twelve heretics. What a devil she must have been, for she struck one of the poor victims such a vicious blow with an iron rod that she destroyed one of his eyes, and the same man had once been her confessor!

Those were evil days, when superstition chained all minds. The orthodox Christians were those who yielded entire obedience to the Church, while those who did not do so were considered to be heretics and were burned to death and punished as ruthlessly as the early Christians had been given over to be torn of wild beasts by the pagan emperors of Rome. The hand of everyone was

turned against the Jews, who were pounded, kicked, mauled, tortured, stabbed and killed, and the Christians who did all this claimed to be doing a service to God.

While Robert was King, a Frenchman of Auvergne (o-vairn') was elected Pope under the title of Sylvester II. There were many remarkable things about this potentate. He was one of the best educated men of the age, studying first in the monastery of Aurillac and afterward under Moslem instructors at Cordova, Spain. He made many useful inventions, among them the balance-clock, which was used until the adoption of the pendulum in 1650. So profound was his knowledge of mathematics that many looked upon him as a magician. He lived to be nearly a hundred years old.

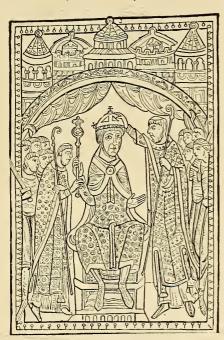
Robert led so unhappy a life with the savage Constance, that he was glad when death relieved him of his bondage. He passed away in 1031, after a reign of more than thirty years and was succeeded by his son known as Henry I. Queen Constance tried to secure the crown for her own son Robert, but failed, and the King ceded Bur-

gundy to his step brother.

Mindful of the trouble his father got himself into by marrying his cousin, Henry took good care to avoid any risk of that nature, by taking as his wife Anne, the daughter of a Russian duke. Henry, it should be said, was only the third son of Robert. One of his elder brothers was dead and the other was an idiot, which being the fact, it is hard to understand why the crown was not given to him.

Nothing of special account occurred during the reign

of Henry which ended in 1060. He made several excursions into Normandy, but they were unsuccessful. His brother, Robert, to whom he ceded Burgundy, was the



Coronation of a King, time of William the Conqueror.

head of the first Capetian House of Burgundy, which lasted until 1361. Henry was succeeded by his son, Philip I., during whose reign, Duke William of Burgundy, a descendant of Rollo, the Northman, crossed the Channel and attacked England. He had no legal claim to the throne, but, as stated in our history of England, his pretext was the promise of Edward, the Confessor, that he would make the duke his successor.

With a large force of archers and cavalry, William the Conqueror, as he was called, landed near Hastings on

September 27, 1066. A great battle was fought October 14, between Pevensey and Hastings, in which the Saxon King Harold was defeated and left dead on the field. William then advanced to London, which could offer no resistance, and, on Christmas day, he was crowned King of England in Westminster Abbey. Some years before this important event, Roger and Robert Guiscard (gheeskar'), two adventurous brothers completed the conquest



Roger Guiscard's Fleet Destroying the Enemy off Naples. 5—Ellis' France. 65

of Sicily. They quarreled in 1060, but soon made up again and Calabria was divided between them. Robert aided Roger at the siege of Palermo, of which he retained the sovereignty, giving the rest of Sicily to his brother. Robert was one of the most accomplished soldiers of his age. He extended his conquests throughout Southern Italy and thus put an end to the long dominion of the Eastern emperors. Roger conquered Sicily from the Saracens after several years' war, and his son ruled over the Norman possessions in both Sicily and Italy, conquering the free cities of Naples and Amalfi, but the kingdom became extinct and in 1189 passed under the sway of the German emperors.

## CHAPTER V.

CAPETIANS.—987-1328.

The Crusades—(1096–1270).

I have told you how the civilized world was scared out of its senses by the belief that the year 1000 would bring the end of all things, and everyone was about to be called to answer at the awful Judgment Seat. Among the many means of turning away the wrath of God was that of making long and dangerous journeys, called pilgrimages, to Palestine, where the Saviour of mankind had been buried and where his tomb was guarded.

To spend one night on the hill where the Saviour of mankind was put to death, and to touch the holy sepulchre



Submission of the Saracens to Roger Guiscard.

was considered sufficient penance for the sins of a lifetime.

Thousands who went thither believed it would be

their last undertaking on earth. They took with them their ascension robes, in the hope that while offering their prayers at the tomb of the Saviour they would be caught up and taken to heaven. In these days a trip to the Holy Land is not much of a journey, for we have steamships and many of the towns and cities mentioned in the Bible are connected by railways, but in the Middle Ages the pilgrimage was expensive, long and dangerous. Pirates roamed over the seas and robbers prowled on land, on the watch to rob or slay the pilgrims. Jerusalem was in possession of the Arabs, who were sometimes oppressive. Christians were heavily taxed and their consciences were hurt by being compelled to make their submission to the infidel rulers.

Palestine fell into the hands of the Turks in the year 1076, and they became more cruel to the Christians than the Arabs. Among the pilgrims who made the journey I have been telling you about was a small, lean man, who had been a French soldier, had turned monk and then, in order to lead a holy life, went off by himself and spent nearly all of his time in fasting and prayer. In history this strange person is known as Peter the Hermit. He had little education, but he was eloquent, wrapt up in his religion and his whole being glowed with fanaticism. He was treated so ill by the Turks, who have always

He was treated so ill by the Turks, who have always been a savage people, that his soul was stirred to wrath, and he resolved to rouse the Christian world to the determination to wrest the Holy Sepulchre from the infidels. Clothed in sackcloth and barefooted, he started on a tour through Europe, calling upon all to join in the holy cru-

sade. Wherever he could find a few persons to listen, he exhorted with a fervor that thrilled his listeners. Sometimes he would mount a box, or a stone, or stand at the corner in a town or on the highways, and appeal to all Christians to unite in the sacred work. He visited Pope Urban II., who was so much impressed by what he said, that he encouraged him to persevere and promised to give him every aid in his power. Besides, the prospect of great gain of power by the Church had much weight

with the potentate.

The Pope called a council at Clermont, in Central France, where an immense multitude gathered, and both he and Peter made impassioned speeches to their listeners, calling upon them to take up arms and go forward in the effort to deliver Jerusalem. There are no more impulsive people in the world than the French, and the appeals were like a torch applied to the dry prairie grass. It spread into a conflagration which swept over the country, wrapping all in the flames of an unalterable resolve. The volunteers crowded forward by thousands and tens of thousands. Their badge was a cross cut from red cloth and fastened on their breasts.

This madness broke out in 1095, and, in the following spring, the First Crusade left France under the lead of Peter the Hermit and Walter the Penniless, a decayed Norman Knight. It was one of the wildest schemes ever formed in the twisted brain of man. Multitudes joined the rabble from other countries. Among them were thousands of old men, women and children, only a few of whom were armed and nearly every one of whom was

as poor as he could be, without provisions, money and with only scant clothing. The faith in the sacredness of their mission made them indifferent to the common affairs of life. Despite the remonstrances of the Pope, who saw their unpreparedness, they refused to wait until better preparations could be made, and answered all protests with the cry, "God wills it! God wills it!"

A vanguard of 15,000 men under Walter the Penni-



"God wills it! God wills it!" Crusaders on the Way to the Holy Land.

less led the way, and was soon followed by Peter the Hermit with fully 100,000 people. Their route, of which they literally knew nothing, except the general direction necessary to take, was two thousand miles long and most of it led through a dangerous country. They poured into Germany like a great plague, and as evidence of their gentle Christianity slaughtered every Jew they could find. They robbed the villages of food, clothing, provisions, and



Peter the Hermit Preaching the First Crusade.

everything they needed and a great deal they did not need. By the time they reached Hungary, they were like so many ravening wolves. The people beat them off with clubs, pitchforks, stones, spears, and any weapons they could seize. As proof of their utter ignorance, they cried out at sight of every new town, "Is this Jerusalem?"

The history of the First Crusade is one of the most pitiful records in history. Men, women and children fell down and died at every mile of the way, and when the horde of famished tramps reached Asia, more than half their original number were dead. The Emperor Alexis was so shocked at sight of the ragged vagrants that he hurried them on into Asia, where they were furiously assailed by the Turks and all but a few slain. Their bleaching bones served to guide the path of those who

plodded after them to the Holy Land.

The Second Crusade was vastly the superior in every respect of the first. The leaders were French as were nearly all their followers. It is said that they numbered 100,000 knights and 600,000 infantry, which took different routes under different chieftains. The French of the North and the Lorrainers followed the course through Germany and Hungary, and were under the lead of Godfrey, Duke of Bouillon (bwee'on), one of the purest, bravest and most knightly men that ever lived. At one stroke of his sword he could sever the neck of a camel or split a small apple in halves when held in a man's hand, without injury to the palm. In all his numerous fierce contests he was never overthrown. He was beloved by everyone, for he was humble, modest, devout and without an equal as a warrior.

The French of the South, led by the wealthy and powerful Count of Toulouse (too-looz'), crossed the Alps and passed into Thrace. The Normans of Italy were joined by the Duke of Normandy and Counts of Blois (blwah), Flanders and Vermandois, and all sailed over the Adriatic, reaching Constantinople in 1097. The Emperor was alarmed, fearing this formidable force would begin its career of conquest there. Indeed a number of the leaders wished to do so, and the Pope himself would not have been displeased, but Godfrey would not permit and the army moved on.

The first great victory of the Crusaders was the siege and capture of Antioch, but they paid dearly for it. Among the few gaunt, ragged survivors of the First Crusade was Peter the Hermit, who joined the second, but he deserted under the stress of a terrible famine. The garrison of Antioch numbered 20,000, while the Crusaders had been reduced to 300,000. After a siege of seven months, they secured entrance into the city through treachery and killed ten thousand of

the defenders.

After tedious delays, 50,000 Crusaders left Antioch for Jerusalem, of whose walls they caught sight on June 10, 1099. Immediately all fell on their knees, sobbing, praying, kissing the earth, giving thanks to God, and thrilled by a resolve that nothing could resist. A general assault took place on July 14, and the next day the Crusaders rushed into the city, Godfrey being the first to scale the walls. The Moslems fought with fanatical fury in the streets and in the Mosque of Omar, but were over-

come. On that horrible day, 70,000 perished and the

Jews were burned alive in their synagogue.

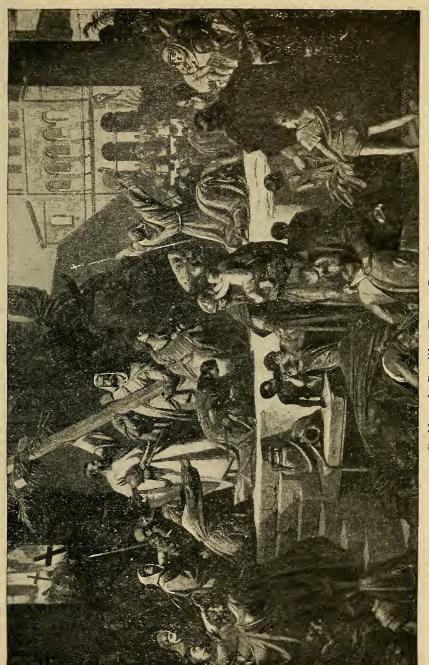
Godfrey was made ruler of the city, under the name of "Defender of the Holy Sepulchre." His men wished to make him King of Jerusalem, but he refused, saying, "I will never wear a crown of gold, where the Saviour of the world was crowned with thorns." The victory of Ascalon, won soon after, over an Egyptian army, completed the work of the Crusaders.

The campaign had been a terrific one, and of all that magnificent force that set out from France in such high hope, only 300 knights remained with Godfrey at Jerusalem. He was so wise, just and generous that the captured people learned to respect and even to love him.

He formed a government, which in effect became a spot of France moved into that corner of Asia. The laws, language and customs of the French were preserved, and so strongly did the conquerors and their followers impress themselves upon the people, that to-day in the East, all Christians, no matter from what part of the world they come, are called Franks.

The kingdom of Jerusalem thus founded was gradually extended until it included all of Palestine. In the city itself were founded the two famous orders of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John and the Knights Templars for the defense of the Holy Sepulchre. For about a half century the three Latin principalities maintained themselves, increasing in power and wealth, and Jerusalem became the capital of a prominent Christian State.

France was the parent of the Crusades, which con-



Godfrey de Bouillon Enters Jerusalem.

The final assault of the city took place on Friday, July 15, 1099, the day of the week associated with the birth of Adam and the death of Jesus Christ, and at the very hour of the day when the crucifixion occurred.

tinued for about a century and a half, and gradually drew recruits from all parts of Europe. The next Crusade (1147) was shared with the Germans, the next (1190) with



A Knight of St. John.

the English, and the next (1202) with the Venetians. The following two (1217 and 1228) were unimportant, and the seventh (1248) and the eighth (1270) were exclusively French and accomplished no special results, except to bring death and misery to tens of thousands of misguided followers.

Saladin, who was as perfect a knight and warrior as Godfrey of Bouillon, invaded Palestine with a large army of Moslems, and, in 1187, captured Jerusalem after a This event roused Europe to the was led by Frederick Barbarossa, Philip Augustus of France, and

siege of two weeks. This event roused Europe to the third Crusade, which was led by Frederick Barbarossa, Emperor of Germany, Philip Augustus of France, and Richard I. of England. The emperor was drowned while crossing a river on horseback, and his army joining the armies of the other two, captured Acre after a siege lasting nearly two years. Richard's brusque, overbearing disposition angered Philip, who withdrew and returned to Europe. Richard led his forces to Ascalon and defeated Saladin, but was unable to capture Jerusalem. This terrible warrior performed such wonderful deeds that they excited the wondering admiration of Saladin and his followers, as well as of his own soldiers. Saladin was a noble

foe, and when he and Richard were not fighting, they met and acted as courteously toward each other as brothers. It is related that when the English king fell dangerously



Finding the Dead Body of the Emperor Barbarossa.

ill of a fever, Saladin visited his camp in disguise, and through his knowledge of medicine was able to restore his herculean enemy to his usual health and prodigious strength.

But with all his prowess, Richard the Lion Hearted was unable to recapture Jerusalem from Saladin. The latter, however, made so excellent a treaty with the invader, pledging his honor that the pilgrims should be protected against injury and oppression (and Richard knew nothing would tempt Saladin to break the pledge), that the English king returned to his country, where, as has been told in our history of England, he was needed. Saladin died in 1193, the sultans of Egypt, Aleppo and Damascus quarreled, and the Christians of Syria were left secure for the time.

Though the Crusades failed in their original purpose, yet they accomplished vast and far-reaching good. Those who took a greater or less part in them had been implacable enemies, because they did not understand each other. Now the scales dropped from their eyes. The French of the North and of the South were drawn nearer. By concentrating their aims and energies in one general object, professing Christians were less eager to fly at one another's throats. Private warfare was stopped or greatly checked; feudalism was almost destroyed, for the barons were forced to sell their lands that they might raise money with which to equip and send their troops abroad.

Another beneficent result was that of inducing kings to grant political privileges to towns in return for gifts of money in aid of the Crusades. Commerce was encouraged, for many ships had to be employed. Shipbuilding and the art of navigation therefore advanced. The East was opened to merchants of the West, and thus industry was aroused. Mechanics increased in number

and guilds were formed for the protection of the different industries.

Still another great gain was the spread of knowledge and the progress of science and literature. From the Arabs, our ancestors learned arithmetic, algebra, the (crude) truths of astronomy and formed an acquaintance with the classics. There were fine scholars among the Saracens, some of whom made their way to Europe and founded institutions of learning. A taste for knowledge was formed among the ignorant and illiterate and an impulse given to civilization and progress such as could have been brought about by no other cause.

## CHAPTER VI.

CAPETIANS (Concluded).—987-1328.

Louis VI.—Louis VII.—Philip II.—Louis VIII.— Louis IX.—Philip III.—Philip IV.—Louis X.— John I.—Philip V.—Charles IV.—(1270–1328).

THOSE were the days of chivalry. Let me quote from a writer an account of how a knight was made in the olden times:

"From the early age of seven years the future knight was taken out of the hands of women and confided to the care of some valiant baron who set him an example of knightly virtues. Until he was fourteen he accompanied the lord and lady of the castle as page. He followed them to the chase and practiced all manner of manly and warlike exercises. These, with the example of some lord who was held up as a model of knighthood, the great exploits of arms and love which were related in the long winter evenings in the hall, and sometimes the troubadour's songs of Charlemagne and Arthur, constituted the moral and intellectual education which the young man received.

"At fifteen he became a squire. The squire accompanied the lord and lady on horseback, served the lord at table, or carried his lance and his various pieces of armor. The ideas of the period ennobled these domestic services.

The initiation of the squire was consecrated by religious services. His physical, military, and moral education was continued by means of violent exercises. Covered with a heavy armor, he leaped ditches and scaled walls, and the legends of chivalry developed more and more in his mind the model of chivalrous courage and virtue. The precepts of the Christian religion were also deeply impressed upon the future knight, and imbued him with its principles. At seventeen the squire often went off on distant expeditions under a vow of accomplishing some feat of prowess before receiving the order of knighthood.

"Finally, when he was twenty-one years old and seemed worthy on account of his bravery to be made a knight, he prepared himself for this initiation by symbolical ceremonies. The bath, a symbol of purity of body and mind, the watching of his arms through the night, the confession, the communion, preceded the recep-

tion of the new knight.

"Dressed in garments of white linen, another symbol of moral purity, he was led to the altar by two tried knights. A priest said mass and blessed the sword. The lord who was to arm the new knight struck him with the blade of the sword, saying to him: 'I dub thee, knight, in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.' He made him swear to consecrate his arms to the defense of the weak and the oppressed; then he embraced him and girded on his sword. The two knights clothed the new knight with the different pieces of armor and fastened on him his gilded spurs, the distinctive sign of the knightly dignity. The ceremony was often ended by a 6—EUis' France.

tournament, which was a test of skill in which the new

knight took part."

I must not forget to tell you that Philip I., who came to the throne of France in 1060, waged war for twelve years against William of Normandy, taking the side of the elder brother of William, who had rebelled against his father. Once, when a truce existed, because of William's illness, Philip made a jest about the enormous size of William, who, like many other persons, was very sensitive to ridicule. He was so angered by the joke that he mounted his horse, called a large force around him, and started off in hot haste to lay waste Philip's domin-He destroyed a great deal of property, but in riding through one of the villages that he had burned, his horse stepped upon some smouldering embers which caused him to make so violent a leap that William was badly injured and died a few days later (1087) at Rouen.

The death of this great man was marked by distressing scenes. Everybody deserted him, and it was several days before his body was found stretched on the bare floor in the monastery of St. Gervais (zher-vai). The poor knight who discovered it caused it to be taken to Caen (kahn) to bury it in a church built by William. The services had scarcely begun when a man stopped them, claiming the ground as his, and it was not until he had been paid a sum of money that he would surrender enough space for the grave of the dead king.

Louis VI. (The Fat), became king in 1108. He was a brave man who fought against Henry I. of England, and defeated him. He was leagued with the French feudal

lords, but the treaty of peace which was made left Henry in the possession of Normandy. Louis VII., son of Louis VI., succeeded his father as King in 1137. He married Eleanor of Aquitaine, who owned enormous estates in Western France, but unfortunately she also owned the temper of a spitfire. She accompanied the King on his expedition to the Holy Land, but he became so disgusted with her conduct that he divorced her. Just before Louis VI.'s death, he said to his son, "Remember that the royal authority is a royal charge." I wonder whether this

was the original of the remark

Statue of William the Conqueror, at Falaise.

that you have heard in later times, "Public office is a

public trust."

King Louis VII. was so unspeakably saddened by the death of his second queen, Constance, in 1160, that it was not until the end of fifteen days that he rallied sufficiently to marry Alice, daughter of Theobald of Blois. She was a noted beauty, and in 1165 bore him a son. All his other children were daughters, and the king was so delighted that he called his child "God-given." This little boy was Philip Augustus, destined to raise the contest between England and France to national proportions. He was a precocious child, and instead of indulging in sports and play seemed absorbed in meditation over the tremendous responsibilities he was to assume in later years. When his father met the English king for conference under the elm at Gisors the prince was present and was filled with indignation by the cunning and double dealing of the foreign monarch, who completely outwitted the French king. Young Philip resolved that if he was spared to wear the crown he would make right this great wrong, and history records how well he kept his vow.

Dying in 1180, Louis VII. was succeeded by his son Philip II. (Augustus), during whose reign the authority of the King became more generally accepted than at any time since that of Hugh Capet the founder of the line. This was mainly due to the ability of Philip, who joined Richard the Lion-Hearted in the Third Crusade, but quarreling with that ugly tempered warrior, Philip left him and returned to France. You have been told in the history of England of the base tact of Philip, who plotted with

Richard's brother John to seize the former's dominions. He failed to secure them by that means, but in 1204 gained the English provinces through the wickedness of

John. Thus he added to his dominions Normandy, Maine, Anjou, Poitou and Louvain, his sway extending as far as the Pyrenees. He walled and paved Paris and several cities, encouraged learning and greatly improved the army. Philip remained a friend of King John of England, until that vile monarch murdered his nephew Arthur, the rightful heir to the throne.

The reign of Philip II. is memorable for the rise of a numerous sect of dissenters from the Catholic Church, called



Philip Augustus at the Elm of Gisors.

Albigenses (al-bi-gen'sis), so named from the region of Albigeois (al-be-zhwah), the district in which they first appeared. There were several divisions among them, but their general belief was in the greatest simplicity of living, that the world was ruled by two spirits, one good and one evil, and these two spirits were ever at war in the heart of every person. They refused to believe in the Sacrifice of the Mass, which teaches that the bread

and wine of the Communion become the real body and blood of Christ, after consecration by the priest. There were some, too, who disbelieved in the need of baptism, and even of marriage, and they condemned the worship of images as idolatrous and denied the necessity of private confession.

In 1209, Pope Innocent III. caused a crusade to be preached against the Albigenses and excommunicated them and Count Raymond, who was their supporter. Many of their towns were taken and dreadful massacres were committed. In the end, Raymond was obliged to submit to the authority of the Pope.

The growing power of Philip alarmed his brother rulers, and the Emperor of Germany and other sovereigns united in the effort to crush him. A great battle was fought at Bouvines (boo-veen'), a small village in Flanders, in 1214, when Philip won a decisive victory. The Emperor was glad to flee to Germany and John to England.

I have told you of the vast good Philip did for France, during his reign which lasted forty-three years. Upon his death in 1223, Louis VIII. (the Lion) came to the throne. Despite his name he was a feeble monarch, but the wise policy of his father it may be said carried the government along of itself. At the request of the Pope, another campaign was undertaken against the Albigenses by Louis VIII., who laid siege to Avignon (ah-veen yong) but the siege was so prolonged that famine and disease caused the death of 20,000 of the besiegers, among whom was the King himself, who passed away in 1226, to be succeeded by his son, Louis IX. (Saint Louis). As he

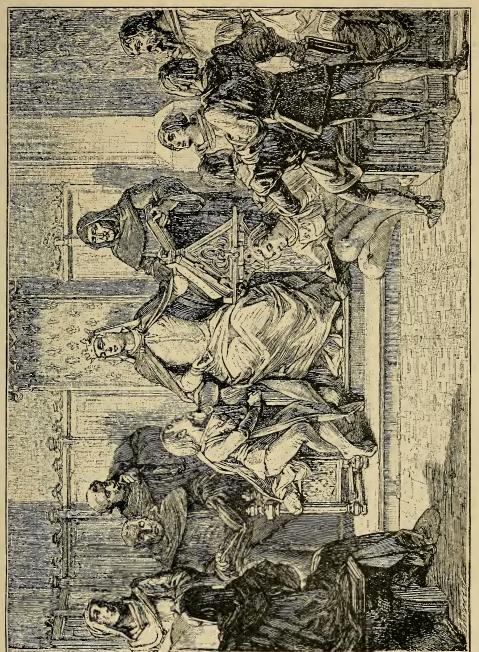


The Battle of Bouvines.

was only eleven years old, his mother, a worthy and noble woman, acted as regent. He owed everything to his mother, Blanche, who, in the face of opposition, secured him on the throne, imprinted on his mind that sense of religion and delicacy of conscience, that honesty of purpose and self denial, that perception of what was due for him and to him, which made Saint Louis first among kings. This ruler was so good, pious, brave and gentle in all he said and did, that he well earned the title of "Saint Louis" which his loving countrymen gave him. The brother of the King married a daughter of the Count of Toulouse and thus brought to an end the long

and bloody wars with the Albigenses.

In 1249, Louis engaged in a crusade against the Sultan of Egypt. Damietta, at one of the mouths of the Nile, was captured in June, but several months of delay brought back the courage of the Mamelukes, and they were ready for a fierce resistance at Mansourah, when a badly managed attack was made upon that place. They formed living barricades of their slaves and fought with such desperation, that the French army was not only defeated but most of the men killed or taken prisoners. Among the latter was Louis, whose conduct was so kingly that it won the respect of his enemies. They offered to rangom him for \$2,000,000 and his subjects eagerly paid 16. It was so hard to find the coin in France, that it was necessary to melt the silver railings around the tomb of Richard the Lion hearted at Rouen (rwen or roo'en) and t are them into money. But the people were happy to to this and welcomed the return of their revered king



Louis IX. Receiving the Instruction from His Mother that Gained Him the Title of St. Louis.

with delight. His rule was so just, so conscientious and so kind to all that his people idolized him. He was a model Christian, and when in 1270, he believed it his



The Living Barricades at Mansourah.

duty to enter upon another crusade, no one was able to dissuade him. He landed in Africa with his army on the way to Palestine and laid siege to Tunis. A malignant sickness broke out among his troops and one of his sons died. Then the king was stricken. Feeling he was near



Death of St. Louis at Tunis.

his end, he ordered his attendants to lay him on a bed of ashes. Then he folded his hands and passed away murmuring: "I will enter thy house O Lord: I will worship

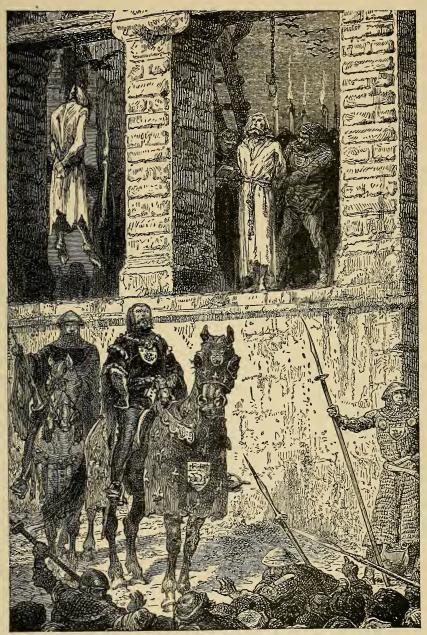
in thy holy tabernacle."

The second son of Louis who was strong enough to resist the disease that carried off his father, was crowned as Philip III. the Hardy or the Bold. The Crusade proved a sad failure and Philip made honorable terms with the Moorish King (who released all the captives) and

paid a large sum of forfeit money.

Philip was lazy and fond of pleasure. Among his many favorites was a youth named Delabrosse (du-la-bros), surgeon and barber, for the two callings were combined in the same person for a long time afterward. I have a strange story to tell you about this young man. Philip brought with him from Africa his little son, whose mother had died there. He was a delicate child and caused his father great anxiety. When the King married a second time, young Delabrosse was very jealous, for he saw he was no longer the first favorite of the monarch. The little son soon afterward died, and Delabrosse declared that his stepmother had used poisonous drinks and sorcery to bring about his death. He wove such a cunning story that at last the King believed him, and caused his Queen to be cast into a loathsome dungeon and condemned to die as a witch.

One day, while she was awaiting death in its most dreadful form, a man came to the palace and asked to see the King on an important errand. When brought before the monarch, he placed a letter in his hands,



The "High Court of Montfaucon."

which he said had been given him by a dying man, with the urgent entreaty to deliver it to the King without an hour's unnecessary delay. This letter, which was properly signed and witnessed, was clear proof of the wickedness and treachery of Delabrosse, through a number of years, until he crowned all by his frightful accusations against the innocent Queen. Philip was pained beyond measure because of the injustice he had done, and lost no time in releasing the Queen and conducting her with all honor back to the palace. As for Delabrosse, he was condemned and hanged at Montfaucon (mong-fo-kong), the place near Paris for execution of public criminals.

Charles of Anjou, who had lately gained possession of Sicily, made himself hated because of his tyranny and the excesses of his followers. Charles was the brother of the sainted Louis, and as different from him

as darkness is from light.

Because the real heir to the throne of Anjou was Conradin, a grandson of the Emperor of Germany, Charles had him seized and beheaded. A Sicilian citizen who had been despoiled of his property by the same ruthless king, visited several courts of Europe in disguise and stirred up a flaming resentment against the base ruler. The Greek Emperor, Pedro of Aragon (who was the next heir to the dead Conradin), and John of Procida, the instigator of the business, sent a fleet to watch Sicily secretly, where the citizens were in league against the French people. On Monday afternoon, in Easter, March 30, 1282, while the bells were ringing to Vespers, the Sicilians rose, and attacking the French, killed every man, woman and child

upon whom they could lay hands. One honest and good man was the only one spared. The tragedy, which is

known in history as the "Massacre of the Sicilian Vespers," resulted in the deaths of 8,000 persons. Charles of Anjou was thus driven out of Sicily and died with chagrin and rage. Philip III. took up his cause, and, in making an unsuccessful invasion of Aragon, caught a fever from which he died in 1285.



Conradin Throws Down His Gauntlet on the Scaffold.

Philip IV. (The Fair), was seventeen years old when he became king. He prosecuted a war for seven years against Edward I. of England over the Duchy of Guienne, (gheen) but was obliged to relinquish his claim. He secured Flanders and ruled it so oppressively that the Flemings rose in rebellion and massacred 3,000 of the French. The king tried hard, but in vain, to subdue the Flemings, and died in 1314. The most important event of his reign was the creation of the "Third Estate" or Tiers Etat (tee-airz ay-tah). Until his time, the only two recognized orders in France were the nobles and clergy. In 1302 Philip allowed the burghers, or common people, to send representatives to the ruling body known as the States-General. These representatives sat on the same terms in that body as the nobles and clergy, and thenceforward three estates were known in France: the nobles, the clergy and the people, or as they were called, the "Third Estate."

Pope Boniface VIII. treated the powerful Colonna family haughtily because they opposed his election to the papacy. He excommunicated them and incited the Princes of Germany to revolt against Albert of Austria. Finally the Pope issued a bull saying God had set him above kings and kingdoms. Philip caused this bull to be burned at Paris, and the Pope replied by laying the land under an interdict. Then Philip appealed to the general council and sent an army into Italy against the Pope. He was taken prisoner at Anagni (ah-nan-yee) by one of the officers who belonged to the Colonna family. The Pope was not harmed, although he remained defiant, and he died a short time afterward.

Louis X. (The Headstrong), who received the crown in 1314, issued an ordinance freeing the serfs within the



Pope Boniface VIII. Defiant Under Insult. 7—Ellis' France.

royal domains. Throughout his brief reign he was under the influence of his uncle, Charles, of Valois (vol-wah'), a base wretch, who turned the anger of the king against Marigny (mah-reen'ye), the former prime minister of Philip IV.. and he was condemned and put to death on the atrocious charge of sorcery. The king died in 1316, and his brother, Philip, administered the government as regent. The infant son, John, who was the heir, having

died, Philip V. (The Long), became king in 1317.

Philip's right to the throne being questioned, he called the States-General together to decide the question. They not only confirmed his title but did more. His disputant was the daughter of Louis X., and the States-General issued a decree declaring all females incapable of inheriting the crown of France. Since this was said to be based on the code of the Salian Franks it was called the "Salic Law." Philip's reign was marked by a horrible persecution of the Jews, many of whom were put to death in Touraine. A number of good laws were made, among them one rendering uniform the weights and measures, which until then had been a jumble. For the first time, letters of nobility were granted, thus securing to commerce and the arts of peace, that which had hitherto been given exclusively to the sword. Philip was a patron of learned men, but his health was bad and he died after a reign of only six years, his successor being Charles IV. (the Fair), who began his reign in 1322. He was the brother of Philip V., and received the crown because Philip had left daughters but no sons.

Little of moment occurred during the four years'

reign of Charles IV. The troubles of Edward II. in England induced Charles to invade Guienne. The wife of Edward was Isabella, sister of Charles, who urged the latter to seize Edward's rights in Guienne. Edward sent his son to do homage to Charles who kept him as a hostage and furnished Isabella with money and soldiers to overthrow her husband. King Edward died terribly in Berkeley Castle in 1327, and within the following year, Charles passed away. His two sons had died and since he left only a daughter, the Capetian line by the "Salic Law" had become extinct.

## CHAPTER VII.

HOUSE OF VALOIS—1328-1589.

Philip VI.—John II.—Charles V.—Charles VI.— (1328–1422).

You will notice that the line of French sovereigns now took another name, but it was really a continuation of the Capetian dynasty which did not actually end until long after the French Revolution of 1848. De Valois was the name of an estate in France belonging to Philip VI., cousin of the late King Charles IV., who, as I have just explained, died without leaving any sons and his family, therefore, were shut out by the "Salic Law" from the succession.

You must bear another fact in mind. There had been continual trouble between England and France, the feeling going back as far as the Norman conquest. The

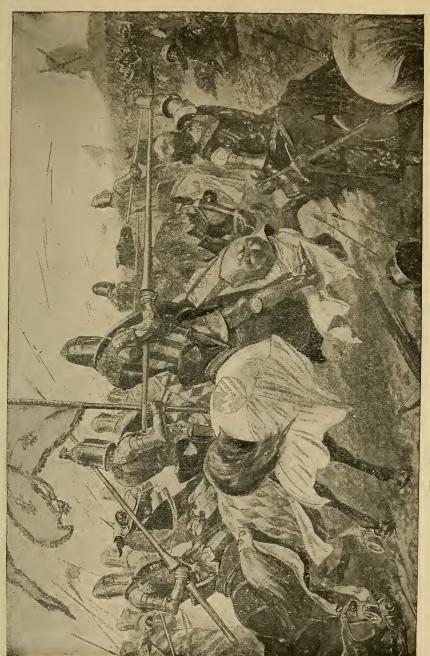


Seal of King John of Bohemia, Ally of Philip VI. at Creey. Showing Full Knightly Armor of the Period.

French tried to wrench away the English possessions in France, and they formed alliances with Scotland, and laid waste many parts of the English coast. The English King, Edward III., now claimed that the crown of France belonged to him, because his mother was sister to the dead Charles, which made Edward the next in succession.

To this the French replied that the Queen being shut out by the "Salic Law," had no rights to pass over to her son. The English people stood by Edward, however, in his claim, and since Philip had attacked the English possessions in Guienne, and was making ready to put down a revolt in Flanders, with which England had a profitable wool trade, Edward in 1337, declared war against France. This was the opening of a contest which lasted so long that it is known in history as the Hundred Years' War.

The fighting went on for several years before either side gained any important advantage. But at Sluys (slois), the English were victorious in 1340, and six years later they gained a great victory at Crecy (cray'see), in northwestern France. This battle will always be memorable because it was the first in which gunpowder was

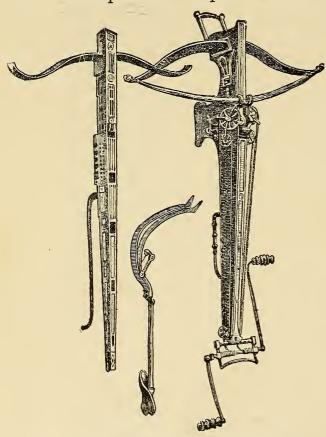


The French Chivalry Charging the English at Crecy.

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The greatest heroes of the conflict were the blind old King of Bohemia, who caused his horse to be led into the thickest of the fight, and the young Prince of Wales. The aged monarch was slain; the "Black Prince" survived to become one of the most conspicuous soldjers of his time.

used. The cannon employed were small affairs and those who fired them counted more on the fear they caused by their loud reports than upon what the missiles themselves



Arbalists, or Cross-bows. Artillery Museum, Paris.

would do. have no account of anyone being struck by the cannon balls, but gunpowder which was the invention of Roger Bacon of Oxford, had been used a long time before as an idle amusement. It is said that the reports of the big guns at Crecy terrified the horses and threw them into such confusion that many of the French riders were killed.

The victory, however, was not

due to the cannon but to the sturdy English archers. The 15,000 cross-bowmen on the French side were worn out by a march of twenty miles, and drenched by a violent storm, which so wet the strings of their heavy cross-bows,

that they lengthened and became almost useless. The English bowmen had been resting all day and took good

care to keep their strings dry. Thus, although the French greatly outnumbered the English, they were at such disadvantage, that they were overthrown. It was at Crecy, that the young son of the English King, known, because of the color of his armor, as the "Black Prince," performed such valiant deeds as to command the admiration of the veteran knights and make his

name a terror to the enemy.

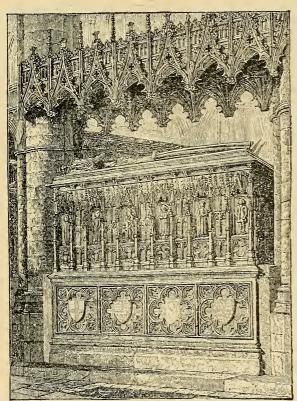
Having won this great victory, Edward now advanced against Calais (kal'ay) the principal port on the channel, and so situated as to be the door to France. The siege lasted nearly a year, and then the defenders would not have yielded had they not been on the verge of starvation. Edward was so angered because of the prolonged resistance, that he told the people they would be spared only on condition that six of the leading men, with halters round their necks should bring him the keys of the city. One of the wealthiest citizens in



Effigy of F.dward the Black Prince, in Armor.

Calais, Saint Pierre (san pee-ar'), instantly volunteered, though he felt certain of being hanged. His example inspired five others and the strange procession went forth,

each man with a halter round his neck, and entered the English camp. When brought before the furious King, he ordered them to be put to death instantly, but

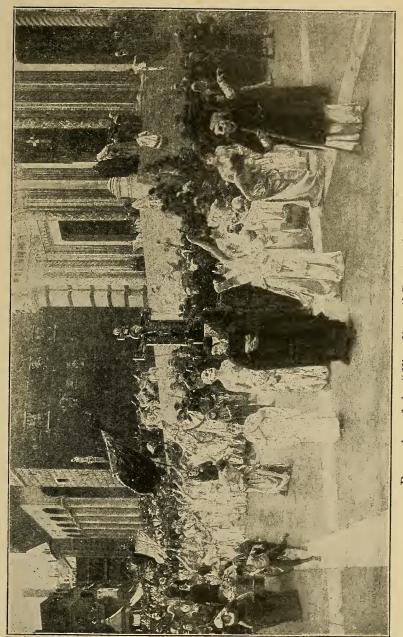


Tomb of Edward III. in Westminster Abbey.

Queen Philippa, who had just joined him, fell on her knees and begged her husband so earnestly to spare their lives, that with ill-grace he consented and they were set free. This incident reminds us of Pocahontas and Captain John Smith, nearly 300 years later, in the gloomy woods of Virginia, when the grim old chieftain Powhatan, ordered his warriors to crush the skull of Captain Smith with their war-clubs. King Edward drove all the inhabitants of Calais

out and peopled the city with his own subjects, and England retained possession of Calais for more than two hundred years.

At this juncture, an awful pestilence, known as the "Black Death" came creeping over Europe from China,



Procession of the "Flagellants" During the Pestilence.

The object of these enthusiasts was to avert the wrath of Heaven by expiatory sufferings endured by themselves for the sins of the whole people; but by their gatherings the plague was carried from place to place, and so many evils resulted that the practice was suppressed by Pope Clement VI.

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and so many thousands died that the people for the next two years had to stop fighting and give their energies to burying the dead. Many persons believed that the visita-



Cross-bowmen on Horseback.

tion was a punishment from heaven for the wickedness of the world. In the hope of staying divine wrath crowds marched over the streets and highways, clothed in sackcloth, but with bare shoulders, flogging one

another as they went. Probably nearly all deserved the flogging, but, if they had given more attention to cleanliness and led well-regulated lives, greater good would have been accomplished. These persons were called Flagellants and the Court of Rome wisely ordered their absurd action

stopped.

But men who are made good by fear, do not stay so after the cause passes away. John II. (the Good) became King in 1350, and six years later the valiant Black Prince was desolating the heart of France. He was attacked at Poitiers (almost pwi'te-a), by King John, with an army of 50,000, while that of the English was hardly one-fifth as numerous, but they were handled with such wonderful skill by the Black Prince, that a more decisive victory was won than at Crecy. King John and his son Philip and many of the nobility were captured, while the Eng-lish army found they had twice as many prisoners as



King John and His Son Philip at Poitiers.

their own soldiers. The King and his son were taken to England where they were kindly treated and kept in

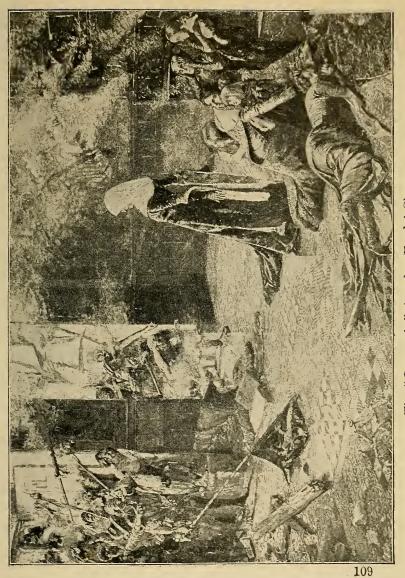
honorable captivity for four years.

As you may well suppose the crushing defeat filled the French peasants and common people with furious disgust. No longer could they pin their faith to the ability and bravery of the nobles. The Dauphin Charles, as the heir of the King was called, became regent of France. He was only nineteen at the time, and he ruled with great wisdom, but the country was in such turmoil and discontent, that a wiser than he could not have brought quiet and security. In order to ransom the prisoners in England, the people were taxed so frightfully that they rose in rebellion. A name of contempt given to the French peasants was Jacques Bonhomme (zhäk bon-om'), Jacques (James) is more common than any other name among the peasants, and the one I have given meaning "Jimmy Goodfellow" was applied in ridicule to all the laboring classes.

The revolt was called "The Jacquerie," and thousands took part in it. When such men are roused to frenzy, they become like so many raging beasts. They showed no mercy to anyone. Castles were burned, women and children slaughtered and men put to the torture; but the trained soldiers fell upon the "Jacquerie" with fury and

soon crushed the uprising.

Finally in 1360, King Edward accepted proposals of peace. He bound himself to give up his claim to the French crown on condition that he was confirmed in the possession of Guienne, Calais and Ponthiey (pon-tee-uh').



The "Jacquerie" Attack a Feudal Chateau.

The demagogue Marcel stirred up a violent insurrection against the nobles, who had used their power with the cruel selfishness common to privileged orders, and furnished the infuriated peasantry with auxiliaries and incited them to attack cities as well as the chateaux of the nobility. It was further agreed that the French people should pay a sum equal to \$50,000,000 in these days for the ransom of King John who was still a prisoner in the Tower of London, and all this enormous sum was to be raised by a

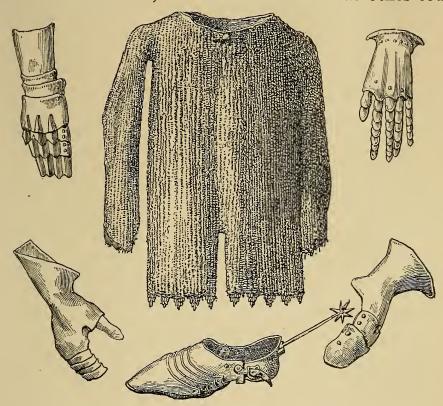
tax on the French peasantry.

And now the condition of France became distressful beyond imagination. Men grew so desperate that they turned robbers, overran the country and plundered right and left, so that the miserable peasants often fled from their homes and hid themselves in caves and the gloomy depths of the woods. King John never saw France again, but died in London in 1364, and was succeeded by Charles V. (the Wise). With the aid of the most famous French warrior of the age Du Guesclin (di gā'klan), he drove the English out of every part of France except a few towns on the coast, for the peace did not last long.

Charles V. proved he was well named the Wise, for he ruled the country with great ability and wisdom. He had a fine fleet and fine armies, and through excellent management, the empty treasury was filled again. Although all books were written, for printing had not yet been thought of, he collected more than a thousand volumes and founded the Library of Paris. The peasants resumed the cultivation of land and began to raise cattle and sheep, but, sad to say, this happy state of things did

not last.

Pope Urban VI., who was elected toward the close of Charles V.'s reign was of so violent temper and of such unjust ways, that many of those who helped to choose him were very sorry for it. His opponents declared his election illegal and chose another Pope, who was called Clement VI. He was established at Avignon on the banks of the Rhone, and France and several other coun-



Coat of Mail, Gauntlets and Mailed Boot.

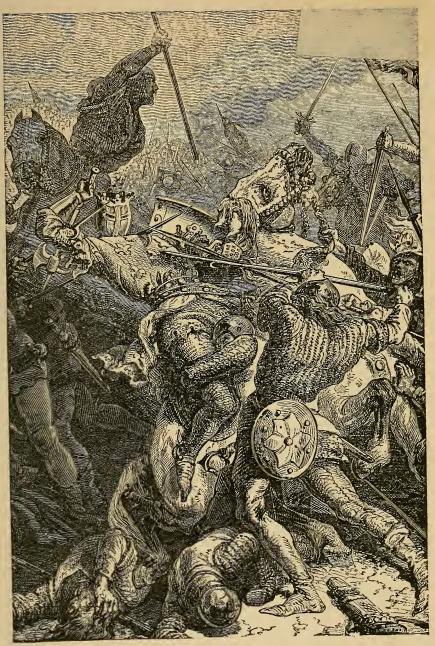
tries gave him their allegiance, but England clung to the Pope of Rome. This dispute is known in history as the Schism of the West.

Charles had been so successful in winning back his provinces that he now made the attempt to secure Brit-

league with the English, and before the Duke could get his answer ready, his estates were confiscated and Charles took possession. It was a most unjust act and the Bretons rose in rebellion and recalled the Duke.

Now that magnificent warrior Du Guesclin, whom I told you about, was a Breton and felt he could not enter into such a fight. So he resigned his office of constable and made up his mind to retire to Spain. Before doing so, however, he joined his friends in attacking the little fortress of Randan. The siege had lasted but a short time, when Du Guesclin was seized with an illness which he felt was mortal. He asked that his sword should be brought to him, and when it was placed in his hand, he looked fondly at it and said: "This has helped me to kill a good many enemies of the King, but it has given me cruel wounds for his sake." He kissed the weapon with tears in his eyes, and handed it to one of his attendants. "Remember," he added, "that wherever you fight, the servants of the Church and the women and children are never your enemies." Then, after commending his wife and brother to the care of the King, he closed his eyes in death, and the governor of Randan laid the keys of the town on the breast of the dead hero. This was in 1380, and the same year the King died and was succeeded by his son Charles VI., who unfortunately at that time was a boy of twelve.

Because of his extreme youth, the three uncles of the King began wrangling over the regency. These fine relatives were respectively the Dukes de Berri, Burgundy



The French Go Down Before the English at Agincourt. 8—Ellis' France.

and Amou of fought like cats and dogs, the people rose in repellion and it is hard to think of a more frightful state of affairs. The leaders offered about all they



Charles VI. of France.

had and a good deal they did not have to Henry V., of England, on conditions that he would come over and help one to crush the other. The chance was too tempting for the English King to turn his back upon it. So he declared war against France and invaded the country, hastily patching up a peace between the supporters of the French King and the

Burgundians. He besieged and captured Harfleur (arflur'), and at Agincourt (ah-zhan-koor'), near the coast, between Calais and Crecy, in 1415, he met the French

army which outnumbered his own six to one.

The English had the advantage of position, and, by order of the King, each man firmly drove a strong stick, sharpened at both ends, into the ground in front of him. Most of the French soldiers were cavalry, and this artifice proved very destructive to the horses, hundreds of



Isabelle of Bavaria, Wife of King Charles VI.
Showing costumes and headdresses of the time.

which were impaled upon the sticks. Henry won a signal victory, and among the numerous prisoners that he took back to France were the Dukes d'Orleans and de Bourbon.

Charles VI. had become insane and never fully recovered. Thus you will see that France having had good bad and indifferent rulers, was now in the hands of a crazy man, so it would seem that every sort was tried in that country, which in the course of time, tested every

known form of government.

King Henry returned in 1420, overran Normandy and captured Rouen, the capital. Shortly after the treaty of Troyes (trwah) was signed between him, and the young Duke of Burgundy, by the terms of which Queen Isabelle disinherited her son Charles, the Dauphin, whom she hated, and gave her daughter Catharine to Henry for a wife. Moreover, it was agreed that when the insane King died, the crown was to pass to Henry of England and his successors. It is hard to think of a better bargain for the English monarch, to whom were thus pledged the daughter of the French monarch and the sovereignity of France itself.

## CHAPTER VIII.

HOUSE OF VALOIS (Continued)—1328–1589.

Charles VII.—Louis XI.—(1422–1483).

THE history of no country contains more wonderful incidents than that of France, but I think you will agree with me that the story I am about to tell

you is the most wonderful of them all.

Charles VI., the insane king, died in 1422. Henry V. of England died before him, and soon after making the strange treaty by which he was promised the whole kingdom of France. In accordance with its terms, his infant son was crowned as King of England and then taken to

France and crowned there as king of that country.

Charles VII., of France, was never accused of having too much spirit, but he would have been an inconceivable coward had he consented to the treaty by which his mother had given away his throne and kingdom. So fighting was renewed more fiercely than before, and the English with their Burgundian friends set out to bring Charles to terms. Nearly all in the north of France were opposed to him and he retreated south of the Loire (lwar) and occupied Bourges (boorzh).

Charles was not yet twenty-one years old and was slothful by nature, besides which thousands of his countrymen hated him. His enemies were far more numerous

than his friends. In two battles, not very important of themselves, he was defeated, and, though personally brave, he must have seen that his cause was well-nigh hopeless. He was selfish and fond of pleasure, and nearly all the men whom he made his favorites were unworthy of his confidence and proved the worst kind of advisers.

About the only important city which remained faithful to Charles was Orleans (or-lay-on'), which commanded the whole valley of the Loire. The English army advanced against it and felt absolutely certain that it would soon fall into their hands. Should that calamity occur, Charles would be compelled to retreat to the southern border of his country, where nothing less than a miracle would enable him to hold out.

Fully understanding the importance of its capture, the English forces surrounded the walls and laid vigorous siege to the city. The outer gate of the bridge and the outermost walls were captured despite the desperate defense of the Frenchmen. Gunpowder played an important part and the stone balls of the cannon were splintered to fragments against the walls, into which here and there breaches began to show. But the French had guns also and did good execution among their enemies. Nevertheless, the advantage remained with the English, who had only to hold their position to compel the people to choose after a time between starvation and submission. It was no credit to the indolent King that during those trying days, instead of being at the head of his soldiers in Orleans, he and some of his favorites were at one of his castles, miles away, enjoying the soft spring weather.

All this time, there was a humble peasant girl tending her father's sheep among one of the mountain districts of Lorraine. She was greatly distressed over the afflic-

and spent many hours night and day praying to heaven to save it from the calamity that threatened its life. And by and by, this good girl as she prayed and meditated, heard voices, and nothing could skake her belief that they were the voices of angels speak-



City Life in the Fifteenth Century. Characteristic for Manners and Customs.

ing to her. Heavenly music sounded in the air far above her head, the wonderful singing of spirits came to her enraptured ears, and visions beyond the power of words to picture broke upon her sight. And then the leading form among the angels said to her that she, the simple peasant maid, was appointed of heaven to deliver France. She was to win the victory that would turn back the invaders, who could be conquered in no other way.

Joan of Arc (jon-darc), as she is known, was awed and tremblingly replied that she was so weak, so ignorant and of such humble birth that she could do nothing, where the bravest of the French officers had failed. But the heavenly form insisted, and, not daring to disobey,

Joan followed the directions given to her and accompanied by her two brothers and a gentleman attached to the service of the Dauphin, she went to the castle where the Dauphin was dawdling away his time, and repeated

her amazing story to him.

Charles was puzzled and at first did not know what to say or do; but he half suspected that what she told him was true and she was the appointed agent of heaven to save the sorely pressed country. Before she reached the castle, he dressed himself precisely like his courtiers and telling them to make no sign that would reveal him, he stood among them when she came in. She glanced around, and picking out the Dauphin, went forward, knelt at his feet and made known her mission. She asked for a suit of armor for herself and the sword of a knight who had lain a long time in the tomb, saying the angels had bidden her to use no other.

Charles ordered that everything should be done as she wished, and so Joan, mounted on a white horse, clad in complete armor, with a white banner carried before her, led several thousand troops to Orleans. The garrison had heard of her, and when they caught sight of the maid in front of the soldiers, they broke into wild shouts of welcome. The English were terrified at first, declaring it was the devil that had come to the aid of the French, but the latter thought it was the opposite.

The first attack by the peasant maid was upon the two towers guarding the bridge across the Loire, although the French officers opposed the assault which they declared was hopeless. But she insisted she was obeying

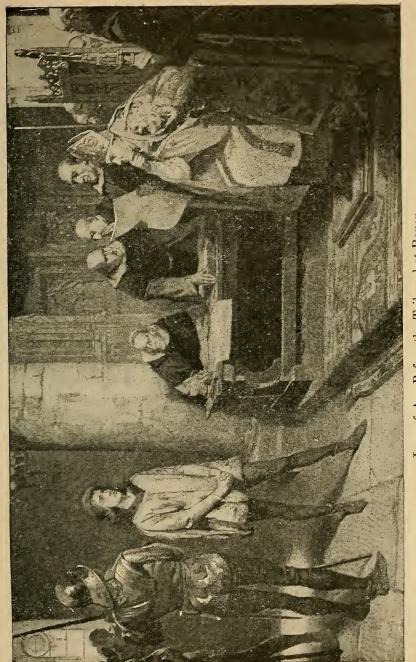


Joan of Arc Wounded Before Orleans.

the orders given to her by the angels. When the assault had lasted for three hours, without any success, a retreat was sounded and the French began falling back. The maid seized a ladder, and quickly resting it against the walls, began climbing upward. Her corselet was pierced by an arrow and she fell unconscious into the ditch below. She narrowly escaped capture by the English; but although suffering great pain from her wound, she seized her sword and banner again, and running up the ladder, and leaping upon the battlements, waved the standard and shouted to her soldiers to follow. Her example inspired them, and the English were dismayed, for their supply of powder and arrows was exhausted and their leader was shot while crossing the bridge. This gave the victory to the French, and that evening, Joan at the head of her soldiers entered the city, followed by the rejoicing people. Orleans was delivered within one week after her arrival before its walls.

This miraculous victory was gained in 1429, and was followed by others, which spread the fame of the Maid of Orleans and brought thousands to the standard of Charles, who, yielding to the urging of the girl, went to Rheims (reemz) in the north, where he was crowned King, the maid standing by his side before the high altar, and holding her white banner unfurled, while all the people looked on in awe and joy.

I wish I could close the story of Joan of Arc, the Maid of Orleans at this point, for that which follows is unspeakably sad. She felt that her mission was ended, and, kneeling at the feet of the king, begged that



Joan of Arc Before the Tribunal at Rouen.

The University of Paris found her guilty of blasphemy, imposture, indecency (in the assumption of masculine dress) and schismatical opinions, and for these offences the penalty was death by fire. The accused was denied the assistance of an advocate, and every attempt was made to convict her from her own lips.

she now might go back to her father and mother and resume the humble work of tending their flocks. King Charles, however, was too selfish to allow her to do as she wished. Her presence animated the soldiers nothing else could animate them, and he made her stay. But from this time forward she lost confidence in herself, for she could not feel assured that she was doing the will of heaven. Many of those who should have been her stanchest friends became jealous of her power. At the siege of Paris, she was badly wounded, and, being cowardly deserted by her troops, was taken prisoner while defending Compiegne (kom-pen-yeh). The officer commanding the siege was John of Luxembourg, and that miserable wretch sold her to the English for an immense sum of money. She was thrown into a dungeon at Rouen, and then brought out, tried as a heretic and sorceress and burned to death at the stake.

It was a horrible crime and nothing can equal the wickedness of all who had to do with it from the beginning, from the unutterably selfish Charles, who cared nothing for the noble maid when she could serve him no longer, to those who applied the torch and looked upon that form as she calmly suffered martyrdom and called out that once again she heard the voices of the angels who were bearing her soul away to eternal happiness. No wonder that when she was no more, one of the judges who had condemned her exclaimed: "Would that our souls were where hers is!" and the secretary of Henry VI. said as he walked sorrowfully away: "We are all lost; we have burned a saint."



"When at War I Always Slept Fully Clothed and Covered with Armor." - Words of Joan of Arc at her trial.

More than twenty years after the execution of Joan an inquiry as to her examination and conviction was made, and this proved so satisfactory as to the character and objects of Joan that her sentence was publicly reversed and cancelled.

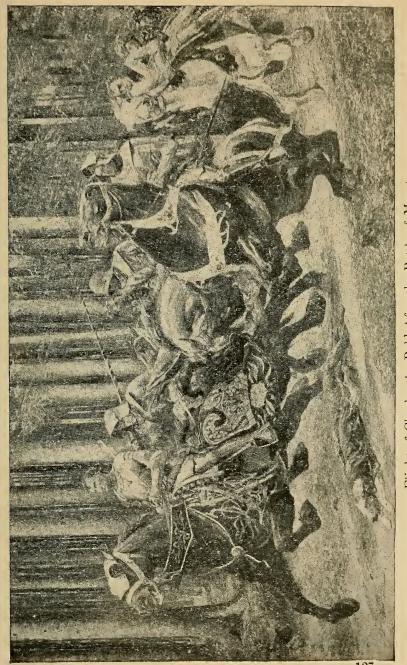
On the spot in the public square where the Maid of Orleans suffered martyrdom, a statue stands which tells of the dreadful crime, and who can look upon it without a sigh for the fate of the noble girl who thus gave up

her life for her country in the dim long ago?

It proved as the English King's secretary said, for the English continued to suffer defeat after defeat until all that they were able to retain was the single city of Calais. Charles VII. died in 1461 and was succeeded by Louis XI., another of the vile scoundrels who helped to curse France. He was an ingrate, continually plotting against his father, who grew to feel a mortal fear of him, and starved himself to death because he believed his son had placed poison in the food that was set before him.

The ambition of Louis XI. was to enlarge his authority by weakening the power of the great feudal vassals. He finally roused so much resistance that in 1465 an alliance was formed against him called the "League of the Public Good," of which the leader was Charles the Bold, afterward Duke of Burgundy. Of course war followed, but Louis was defeated and forced to give the rights demanded by the nobles. But Louis did not yield the fight. As soon as he dared, he revoked these concessions, one after the other and finally brought his vassals to submission.

When Charles VII. died the period known as the Middle Ages ended. This in France is considered to have begun in the reign of Clovis. Constantinople was taken by the Turks in 1453, and Mohammed II., who was the first to receive the title of Grand Seignior (seen-yor),



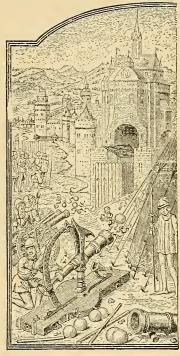
Flight of Charles the Bold After the Battle of Morat,

Messengers bearing green branches of victory hastened to all the Swiss cities after the battle of Morat, while the universal ringing of bells spread the news far and wide. For three centuries the mound covering the bones of the Burgundians who fell at Morat remained as a ghastly memorial of the day.

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made a triumphant entry into the city, but died in 1481, after a long and victorious career, as he was about to lead

an attack against the Knights of St. John.

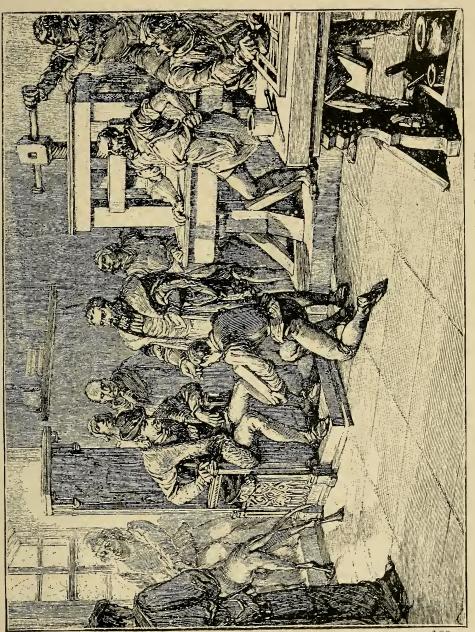


Siege of Neuss by Charles the Bold. Showing Threebarrelled Cannon on a Single Gun Carriage.

Returning to our account of the French King Louis XI., most of the reign was filled with plots and intrigues against his enemies, particularly Charles the Bold, Duke of Burgundy. The latter united with the Duke of Brittany, and took up arms against Louis, inviting Edward IV., of England, to join them. But Louis was shrewd and cunning and won over the Swiss. Upon learning that the citizens of Liege, which was subject to Burgundy, had rebelled against their tyrannous lord, Louis sent an envoy to Liege, assuring them of help in their resistance to the Duke. Charles the Bold had challenged Louis to answer for his aggressions

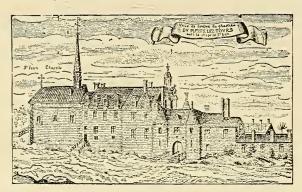
upon his territory. The King was advised to meet the Duke of Burgundy in person to settle their disputes. Receiving a safe conduct from the Duke, the King went to Peronne. In the meantime, the evil seed sown by Louis in Liege had borne its fruit. Violence broke out and Louis de Bourbon, Bishop of Liege, was among those who were massacred.





9-Ellis' France.

News of these outrages came to Charles while he was talking with Louis. He was so enraged that he could hardly restrain himself from taking the life of the King



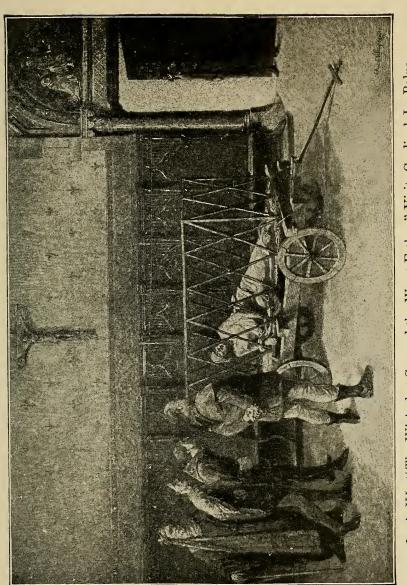
View of Plessis-les-Tour, the Castle of Louis XI.

despite the written pledge he had given him of safe conduct. But the crafty King saved himself by signing a treaty by which he promised to resign all authority in Burgundy and to give Champagne and Brie (bree) as apana-

ges to his brother Charles, that is to say, lands for the support of his sons. Then Louis went off determined to break his pledge, like a true King, on the first

opportunity.

Louis devoted his great skill to winning over his opponents, for he was alarmed by the growing power of the Duke of Burgundy. The treacherous Cardinal Balue was the one at whose suggestion, Louis had visited the Duke and thus placed himself in his power. Louis learned that the cardinal was in the pay of the duke, and he now punished him by placing him in an iron cage, where he was kept for ten years. When he released him it was upon the request of Pope Sixtus IV. The cage was an invention of the cardinal himself and no doubt when he was set free he felt satisfied that as a means of punishment it was a success.



Louis XI., "The Wickedest Son and the Worst Father," Visits Cardinal La Balue.

when they saw the meanly-dressed, slouch-gaited, sallow-faced man traveling from altar to altar and sticking his bonnet full of little images of saints, for a tale of blood was sure to follow." When Louis XI, was planning any detestable crime he redoubled his devotions. "People trembled

The Duke of Burgundy was defeated in several battles and Louis made proposals of peace to his allied foes, promising Edward IV. a large sum of money, if he would not fight-him any more. Because these treaties regarded the rights of commerce, they were called the Mercantile Treaties. Louis turned over his brave Swiss allies to Charles, who invaded their country, but only to meet defeat at Granson and Morat (mo-rah'), being compelled to flee in great haste from the field of the latter. A third battle was fought, in 1477, at Nanci, in which the Burgundians were again defeated and this time Charles himself was killed and everybody was glad.

Printing was invented during the reign of Louis XI. When the first printed book was presented to him and the process explained, the King inquired what kind of ink was used. Upon being told, he exclaimed: "It is the

most perfect liquor man ever drank."

As Louis grew old, he became a prey to superstition and remorse, for he had done a great deal of evil. He grew morbid over the fear of death and shut himself up in a gloomy castle which was nothing more than a vast tomb. He kept a large force of soldiers continually on guard night and day, and hardly ever allowed himself to be seen. Hundreds of innocent people passing near were strung up or drowned on suspicion that they had designs upon the life of the king, who probably inherited a taint of insanity from his father.

He spent hours in prayer over the bones of saints and implored heaven to grant him long life. Little leaden images of the saints were carried in his hat and his cloth-

ing was shabby and threadbare, though he had a magnificent robe of velvet in which to receive great visitors. When death at last drew near, he grew more resigned and with greater calmness than would have been expected, he passed away in 1483.

## CHAPTER IX.

HOUSE OF VALOIS—(Continued).—1328-1589.

Charles VIII.—Louis XII.—Francis I.—Henry II.—
(1483–1559.)

FROM the accession of the young man, Charles VIII., to the close of the Valois line is about one hundred years. That comparatively brief period in the history of a people is marred with war, cruelty and murder, and the worst of it all was that the most horrible outrages were committed in the name of religion. Catholics and Protestants were guilty of atrocities that make one shudder and wonder how human beings could become transformed into such wild beasts, without a spark of mercy or kindness in their hearts. In these days, when everyone is left free in all of those countries to worship God as he thinks right, and no one is allowed to interfere with another's religious belief, it is hard to credit that such savage crimes were committed. It has been truly said that in the wars carried on in the name of religion, religion itself was destroyed.

Mixed up in this woful work were France, England, Germany and Spain. There was strife, too, among the claimants to thrones and power; jealousies raged; treachery was abroad; faith was broken; the most solemn pledges violated; hypocrisy everywhere and in short the devil seemed to be loosed. It would take many pages to tell the whole story and you would become confused and sick of the dreadful business. So, let us study just enough to form a clear idea of events.

Charles VIII. had a brave heart in a sickly body. The nobles made war against him in the effort to regain the power they had lost under his father, but they failed, Then Charles, anxious to extend his dominions, set out to conquer Italy and started a war which lasted for about half a century after his death. He was quite successful in a way and entered Rome at the head of his victorious army. He was also crowned King of Naples and felt proud of the empty titles of King of Jerusalem and Emperor of the East. While he accomplished little, he set on foot the French wars for foreign conquest which were afterward pushed with great success in different parts of the world.

Now, since I have told you how debased and irreligious the times were, you must not form the idea that everybody forgot his duty to God and his fellow men, though I am sorry to say that almost everybody did so. There were some of the best men and women that ever lived, who were deeply grieved by the impiety around them, and did all they could by protest and prayer to check it. One such good man was a Dominican friar,



Charles VIII. Enters Rome at the Head of His Army.

named Girolamo Savonarola, who lived in Florence. His soul was roused by the universal frivolity and wickedness, and instead of folding his hands and contenting himself



Charles VIII. Hearing the Causes of the Rich and Poor.

with asking God to make things better, he bravely set to work to give all the help he could. He preached, pleaded and argued with the thoughtless ones, and by his example and eloquent warnings, won a great many to better and worthier lives. He did not hesitate to attack those in high places and to interfere in politics. No doubt his zeal sometimes carried him too far, and, like many good men before and since, he was called upon to suffer martyrdom, for in 1498, when he was less than fifty years

old, he was strangled, his body cast into the flames and the ashes thrown into the river.

A strange seriousness came upon Charles VIII. in his later years. His thoughts were turned to God, and he sought to be just and good. He established public audiences and patiently listened to all who came to hear him. especially the poor, and he was unkingly in his efforts to lessen, so far as possible, the burdens and sufferings of his subjects.



## Savonarola Preaches Against the Sin of Luxury in Florence.

His impassioned harangues made converts every day. A large number of the excitable Florentines accepted all his views, and became as enthusiastic in religion as they had formerly been in pleasure. Gambling-houses and other disreputable places of resort were closed, and plainness of dress was enforced by sumptuary laws.

Probably every boy who reads these lines knows what it is to bump his head. The sensation is anything but pleasant, and it sometimes takes a good while to get over it, as I know from experience. Well, one day in 1498, when Charles had reigned only five years, he was passing through a dark passage in his castle and struck his head against a beam with such force that he fell to the floor unconscious. He was carefully attended, but his skull was fractured and he died in a few hours. You will be interested to know that until that time white was the color of mourning in the royal family, but the widow of Charles put on black and the custom has continued ever since.

Charles VIII. left no children and the crown passed to Duke Louis of Orleans, grandson of a brother of Charles VI., and thirty-six years old. He was a good-natured man and showed no resentment toward those who had been his enemies, saying with a smile, that what they did was against the Duke of Orleans and not against the King of France. He conquered Lombardy, and at Agnadello, a village in North Italy, he won a great victory over the Venetians, in May, 1509, but in the end a Holy League was formed against him by the Pope, the Emperor of Germany, the King of Spain, and Henry VIII. of England, all of whom were jealous of the growing power of France. Such a formidable union drove the French out of Italy, and all that they had gained was lost, except the inspiration which the French got from the noble buildings and works of art, and which resulted in what is known as the Renaissance, or new life, in the French order of architecture.



Louis XII. Wins the Battle of Agnadello.

Now I must tell in this place something about a family that was one of the most infamous in all history—that of the Borgias. The head was Rodrigo, who was



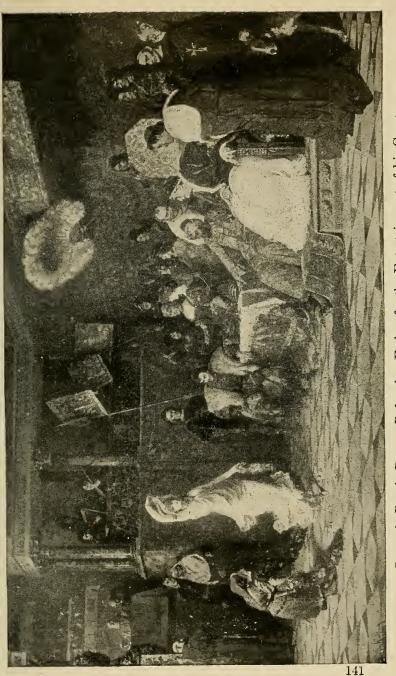
Seal of Louis XII.

born in Spain in 1431. Although the father of four sons and a daughter, he succeeded by intrigue in having himself elected pope in 1492. His son Cæsar was a monster of wickedness like himself, and seems to have been guilty of all the dreadful crimes with which he has been charged. In 1503, the Pope and his son attempted to poison a rich cardinal, so as to

obtain his wealth, but by mistake of the attendants, the two drank the wine intended for him. The Pope died almost instantly, but Borgia recovered and was killed some time afterward.

The daughter, who was as wicked as they, was accustomed to dance shamelessly before her father for the entertainment of guests, and was married three times. She was divorced from her first husband, her second was murdered by her brother Cæsar, and most of her life was spent in the pontifical palace, where she abandoned herself to every species of crime and immorality.

The genial nature of Louis XII. made him greatly beloved by his subjects, and when he died in 1515, he was universally regretted. His successor was Francis I.,



Lucrezia Borgia Dances Before her Father for the Entertainment of his Guests.

Pope Alexander VI. indulged in every debauchery and wickedness which his depraved will suggested, allowing his dunghter Lucrezia—herself outside the pale for her vices and crimes—to dance wantonly before himself, her brother Comp. Z., in, the captive heir to the throne of Turkey, and members of the pontifical court. Duke of Angouleme (ang-go-lame), twenty-one years old. He was chivalrous and anxious to distinguish himself by military exploits. He invaded Italy at the head of an



Seal of Francis I.

army of 40,000 soldiers, and in the battle of Marignano (mah-reen-yah'no) in 1515, he totally defeated the Swiss forces, who had been hired to fight for a cause in which they had nothing but a pecuniary interest. Milan (mil'an or me-lon') surrendered and Francis was wise enough to form an alliance with the Swiss republic.

Now it is that the other

nations become mixed in the affairs of France. On the death of the Emperor of Germany, Charles of Spain became a successful candidate for the vacant throne. This angered France and gave rise to a series of wars which lasted more than twenty years, between him and his rival, who afterward became the illustrious Charles V. of Germany. Each party tried to win the support of Henry VIII. of England. The scenes attending the meeting between Francis and Henry were so magnificent and marked by such splendor that the place was called the "Field of the Cloth of Gold." Through the intrigues of Cardinal Wolsey, Henry VIII. declared in favor of the Emperor of Germany.

Francis invaded Italy, but was disastrously defeated at Pavia in 1525, his most distinguished generals killed and himself taken prisoner. He was held for more than

a year, and only obtained his release by signing a very humiliating treaty, and, of course, as soon as he got back to France he broke his pledge and renewed the war, having formed an alliance with Venice and the

Pope.

Since I had to tell you so unpleasant a history as that of the Borgias, it now gives me pleasure to relate that of one of the purest, bravest and best knights that ever drew sword in defense of truth, justice and right. His full name was Pierre du Terrail, Seigneur de Bayard (bai'yar), and he is always referred to as Bon Chevalier sans peur et sans reproche, meaning "Good Knight without fear and reproach." When you hear the expression, which is often used, "Brave as Bayard," the reference is to this remarkable man, and it is the highest compliment that can be paid any one.



Coat of Mail of Chevalier Bayard.

He was born of an ancient and honorable French family in 1476, and at an early age displayed the courage,

unconquerable resolution, military skill, virtue and honor which made him a model knight in every respect. So wonderful were his daring and skill, that instead of wait-



Medal of Francis I.

ing until he was twenty-one years old, he began his military career at the age of eighteen. The first battle in which he fought was that of Fornova in 1494 on the side of Charles VIII. Two horses were killed under him and his feats of valor roused the admiration of all who witnessed them. He threw his matchless energies into the campaigns

of Louis XII., and the following marvelous achievement has been told of him and is true.

When the French army were retreating, Bayard paused at the bridge over the Garigliano (ga-rig-ly-yano), and single-handed confronted 200 pursuing Spaniards, and that one knight fought and held back the whole force until the main body of the French army made good its retreat. In 1513 occurred the famous battle of the Spurs at Picardy, so called because the French cavalry fled in headlong haste before the English. It was the valor of Bayard that saved the French army from total disgrace, but he was compelled to surrender to an English knight though he was soon afterward exchanged. On other fields he displayed the same matchless daring. His military skill caused the leaders continually to seek his advice, but because Bayard disdained flattery and the arts of the courtier, he was never entrusted with any important command.

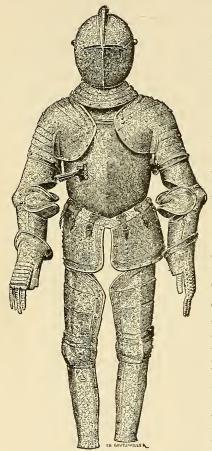
In 1524, at the passage of the Sesia, he received a



Bayard, Single-handed, Defends the Bridge at Garigliano.

mortal wound, but refused to be carried off the field, 10-Ellis' France.

saying that in his last moments he would not turn his back on the enemy. Reclining at the foot of a tree, he



Armor of the Spanish Gonsalvo de Cordova. Worn at the Battle of Garigliano.

encouraged his men, kissed the cross on his sword hilt, confessed himself to his esquire and closed his eyes in death. There have been attempts on the part of some persons to trace their descent from this noble and spotless knight, but such persons forget that the Chevalier Bayard was never married and of course left no descendants.

Bourbon, commander of the German troops, marched against Rome with an army composed of many whose minds had been excited by the preaching of Martin Luther, the founder of the Reformation, while others were ferocious and lawless bandits and adventurers. Bourbon was killed in the first assault, but Rome was taken, and for seven months was the scene of violence. pillage and every manner of Pope Clement VII. was crime. kept a prisoner and treated like a

common felon. Because of this France and England formed an alliance, and Charles finding himself embarrassed by



Francis I. Taken Prisoner at the Battle of Pavia, A. D. 1525.

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After a year's As he crossed the frontier of his Francis was taken prisoner after he had been twice wounded and thrown from his horse. imprisonment he was set free after signing the "Treaty of Madrid." kingdom he exclaimed: "I am a king again." the action of the German Protestants, and being threatened by the Turks, agreed to a treaty of peace with Francis, which was signed at Cambray in 1529. But the



Scene at a Tournament, Sixteenth Century.

war was twice renewed, and Francis shocked Christendom by forming an alliance with the Turkish sultan. "When the wolves attack the fold," he said, "we must seek the help of the dogs." He gained a splendid victory in

1544 at Pavia, the scene of his former defeat, but the German Emperor and English King had formed an alliance and agreed to invade France, capture Paris and divide the French Dominions between them. Francis made a successful defense against them, and in 1546 succeeded in making peace with both. He died the next year, and was succeeded by Henry II., twenty-eight years old.

This monarch had little of the ability of his father and was slothful and devoted to pleasure. Hostilities soon breaking out between France and Charles V., Henry formed an alliance with the great Protestant leader Maurice. Elector of Saxony, who immediately declared war against the German emperor as the enemy of civil and religious liberty in Germany. Charles was prudent enough to make a treaty with the Germans in 1552, by which they were guaranteed freedom of worship. Henry II. refused to join in the treaty and the imperial army

was defeated at Metz, where the French forces were commanded by Francis, Duke of Guise (qweez).

Before Henry began his reign he married Catharine

de Medici (med'e-chee), a descendant of an illustrious family of the Florentine Republic. The founder of the house was Lorenzo de Medici, who was the father of Pope Leo X. and the uncle of Pope Clement VII. On ac-



Tournament.-Joust of Lances.

count of his many accomplishments and his patronage of the liberal arts, he was styled the Magnificent.

At a tournament, King Henry became so interested in the exercises that he invited a Scottish captain of the guards to break a lance with him. In the encounter, the captain's lance was the one that broke, piercing through the king's casque to his cheek, under the eye. The king was carried senseless from the field, and ten days later died, to be succeeded by his son Francis, who was sixteen years of age. This was in 1559.

## CHAPTER X.

HOUSE OF VALOIS—(Concluded).—1328-1589.

Francis II.—Charles IX.—Henry III.—(1559-1589.)

WE must remember that it was during the reign of Charles VIII. that Christopher Columbus discovered America. During those weary years spent by him in tramping from one court of Europe to another,



trying to interest the rulers and persuade them to fit out an expedition for him, he called upon the French King, who like many others made up his mind that the great Italian navigator was a crank and shook his head when asked to give him the help he so sorely needed.

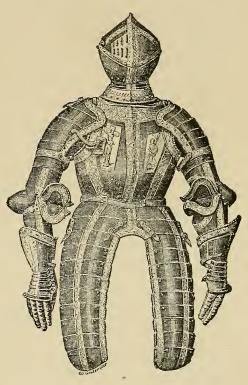
But a new world had been found, and though Spain and Portugal were disputing over its possession, Francis

I. had been determined to have a share in the prize. "Show me," he said to those rulers, "the clause in Father Adam's will which divides America between you and leaves out France." The will couldn't be found and French explorers continued to visit the New World, and in time gained many important possessions, as you have learned in the history of the United States.

Francis II. was only sixteen years old and in weak health. He married Mary Stuart, slightly younger, who was the daughter of James V. of Scotland. Francis was

King only in name, the real rulers being his widowed mother Catharine de Medici, Francis, the Duke of Guise, and his brother Charles, Cardinal of Lorraine. Never was there a more infamous partnership, for all three were cunning, treacherous, ambitious, deceitful and thorough believers in the policy that it is right to use any means at command to reach the end in view.

The two men were extreme Catholics and the young Queen who cared only for gayety and pleasure, asked nothing except that they would let her have plenty of money



Armor of a Captain of Lansquenets, or Soldiers of Fortune.

for her indulgence, and they did so and ruled the kingdom. But the Bourbon family were jealous of them, and waited for the hour when they might strike them down. The Bourbon leaders were Antoine, King of Navarre and his brother Prince Conde. Navarre was a little kingdom on the borders of the Pyrenees, the queen

of which Antoine married. They were champions of the Calvinist or Huguenot cause and that reminds me that

you must wish to know what that was.

Martin Luther, a German monk was a man of profound learning, who after long study, came to disbelieve in the supreme power of the Pope. He published a work in which he boldly maintained that the Church had fallen into bondage to the Pope and that the mission of Luther was to deliver it from its slavery. At first he meant to do this from within the Church, but finding that impossible, he took an independent position and attacked the Catholic authorities with vigor and coarseness. Elector of Saxony, because of the heavy drains upon his province to meet the demands of Rome, was impatient and took the side of Luther, as did many prominent men. This forced the German Emperor to grant the Lutheran party freedom of worship in certain provinces until a general Church council should meet and settle matters. The further exercise of the privilege was forbidden by the Emperor Charles V. The Lutheran party protested in 1529 against this tyrannical act, because of which they gained the name of Protestants.

The Emperor was alarmed by the spread of the new faith and tried to stamp it out. The Reformation, however, expanded and grew, but Catholicism firmly held its ground in the south of France and in Italy and Spain, where heretics were put to death in the most cruel manner. The Inquisition was the name given to a court established to inquire into offences against the established religion. It flourished most in Spain, but the first court



Mary Stuart and Her Young Husband, Francis II.
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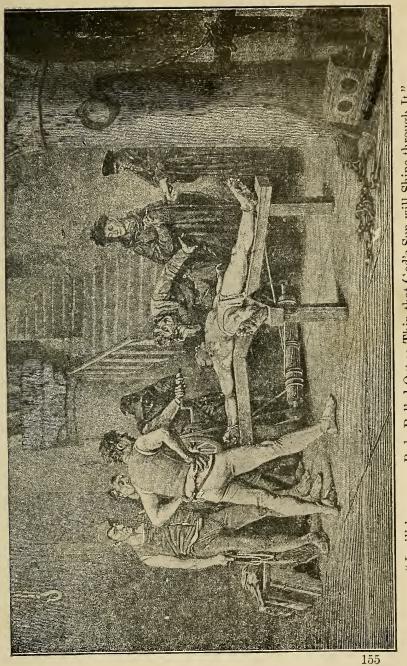
was established in the south of France after the conquest of the Albigenses in the thirteenth century. It worked in secret and in some cases its agents inflicted frightful



The Holy Inquisition.—Two of the Most Common Modes of Torture.

tortures upon those declared guilty. More than once the fearful threat was carried out: "I will have your body rolled out so thin that God's sun will shine through it!" Breaking on the wheel was another method. A man was bound securely to a wheel and his executioner proceeded by means of blows with an iron rod to break all the bones that could be reached one after the other.

The population in Central France was divided in their sentiments with the inevitable result that before long they began clawing at one another's throats, the jealousy being due as much to political as alleged religious causes. John Calvin was the leader of the reformation in France, and he went far beyond Luther in his claims for the new faith. The crafty Francis encouraged the German Protestants in order to weaken that empire, but at home he showed no mercy to the reformers. The belief every-



"I will have your Body Rolled Out so Thin that God's Sun will Shine through It."

principle was not entirely new, but had never before been so strictly applied. It was rapidly introduced into The Inquisition, or Holy Office, as it is sometimes called, dates from the early years of the thirteenth century. Italy, Spain and Germany, but its most frightful cruelties were perpetrated in Spain. where in these days was that no man had a right to profess a religion different from that of his sovereign, and when a person was called a heretic, it was only another name for traitor. The Catholics persecuted the Lutherans in the south, and the Lutherans persecuted the Catholics in the north, and after a time persecuted one another, if they followed a different leader. The supporters of Calvin were also called Huguenots. The word was a nickname of reproach and is supposed to refer to comrades bound together by oaths.

The Calvinists or Huguenots who read their Bibles and tried to lead godly lives were horrified by the wickedness of the court. Many a time one of these stern men would stop on the street and denounce the frivolous nobles for their frivolity, while the nobles in turn would laugh and sneer at the Calvinist as a canting hypocrite.

Thus you have the grand divisions or parties in France, and I have told you the names of the principal leaders; but many of the moderate Catholics shared the feelings of the Bourbons against the Guises, for since the queen was Scotch, the queen mother Italian, and the Guises belonged to Lorraine, France was really ruled by a little knot of foreigners. Another strong opponent of the Guises, was Admiral Coligny (ko-leen'yee), a Huguenot and an ardent supporter of the reformation. He was a brave and noble man, who had greatly distinguished himself in many of the battles of his country. King Henry made him Admiral in 1552. On the death of that king, he returned to his estates, where he became a convert to the reformed faith. He and Prince Conde threw them

selves body and soul into the movement, and were supported by the honest Calvinists and an influential body of the smaller nobility, who were prompted by the

chance of obtaining spoils

and booty.

Now you can understand that the weak king was really the key to the problem, for whichever party could control him would gain a decisive advantage. The enemies of the Guises formed a plot to seize the king and queen and kill or otherwise dispose of the members of the government. Calvin utterly condemned the scheme, and it being discovered by the Guises, they executed scores of those implicated. The Prince of Conde



Nobles and Calvinist.

was the real leader, but he covered up his tracks so well that it was impossible to convict him. Soon afterward, in 1560, the king died, having reigned only a year and a half. His widow, Mary, the unfortunate Queen of Scots, bade a tearful adieu to the country she loved and went to Scotland, which she did not love though it was her native land. She was unfitted by nature for the throne which she ascended, and, as you have learned elsewhere, her imprisonment of eighteen years ended on the scaffold.

Having left no children the brother of Francis became heir to the crown in 1560. He is known as Charles IX., and at the death of the king was only eleven years old. The French law made the heir to the throne of legal age at fourteen. His mother, therefore, the crafty and unscrupulous Catharine de Medici, became the real ruler of the kingdom. She began by cunningly bringing about a reconciliation of the opposing parties, but her real purpose was to strengthen herself so as to strike the more

fatally when the hour arrived.

The embers smouldered until the spring of 1562, when a small outbreak in Eastern France precipitated a horrible political and religious war, which with now and then a truce or breathing spell, drenched France in blood for thirty years. Catholics and Huguenots were equally fierce and violent, but the advantage was with the Huguenots because they had two such able leaders as Colligny and Conde. Among the two hundred cities and towns captured by them were Rouen, Lyons, Tours and Orleans. The Catholics held Paris; the king and regular government were with them; and the bigoted Philip II., of Spain, who imprisoned his own son because he was a heretic, sent three thousand of his best troops to fight for the Catholics. No one even in those days could read of the atrocities committed by both sides without a shudder.

At last after the Duke of Guise had been assassinated and the whole country was going to destruction and both sides began to show signs of exhaustion, Catharine de Medici patched up a peace; but it was only a sheathing of swords and in her heart she was as malignant as ever. Fighting was soon renewed, and in one of the battles

Conde was killed. The Huguenots were repeatedly beaten, but they kept up the warfare as resolutely as ever. Finally a treaty was made at St. Germain (san zher-man') in 1570, which gave the Protestants a fair degree of religious liberty, four fortified cities were turned over to them as places of refuge and detheir faith.



Catharine de Medici.

fense, and all employments were thrown open to those of

Admiral Coligny, like the brave and sincere Christian that he was, urged his followers to keep this peace, though he himself was troubled by so many misgivings that he formed plans for removing the Huguenots to America or to Holland. Meanwhile, Charles had become old enough to receive the crown. Catharine did not like him, but preferred Charles' brother, the Duke of Anjou. This made the King jealous, and he was also tired of being led about by his mother. Both, however, agreed that they must do all they could to check the growing power of Spain, for it threatened the existence of France.

King Charles thought out a brilliant scheme for securing the support of the Huguenots. He compelled his sister Marguerite, who was a Catholic like himself, to marry Henry of Navarre, the next most prominent Huguenot leader to Admiral Coligny. The marriage took place August 18, 1572, although Marguerite was bitterly opposed to it, and the union of a Catholic and heretic was denounced in the pulpits of Paris, as unholy.

What angered and scared Catharine more than everything else was the discovery that the King was steadily falling under the influence of Coligny. She hired a professional assassin, of which, sad to say there were many in those days, to kill the Admiral, but he succeeded only in wounding him. The King was angered, and swore that the guilty ones should be traced out and punished. The Huguenots began arming and the wicked Catharine became so frightened that she determined to commit one of the foulest crimes that stain the pages of history.



Huguenots Destroying Sculptures on a Cathedral. 11—Ellis' France.

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This plan was at one blow to destroy Coligny and all the leaders of the Huguenot party. The weak king, when the awful crime was proposed to him, repelled it with horror, but his mother persisted, and by exciting his jealousy, finally won his consent. "I agree to it," he said, "on the one condition that you do not leave a single Huguenot alive in France to reproach me."

Before the first glimmer of light on Sunday morning, August 24, 1572, it being the solemn festival of St. Bartholomew, the bell of the church of St. German, opposite the palace of Louvre (louvr) began tolling. At once all the other church bells in Paris joined and those concerned knew that the tolling meant "begin to kill the Hugue-

nots!"

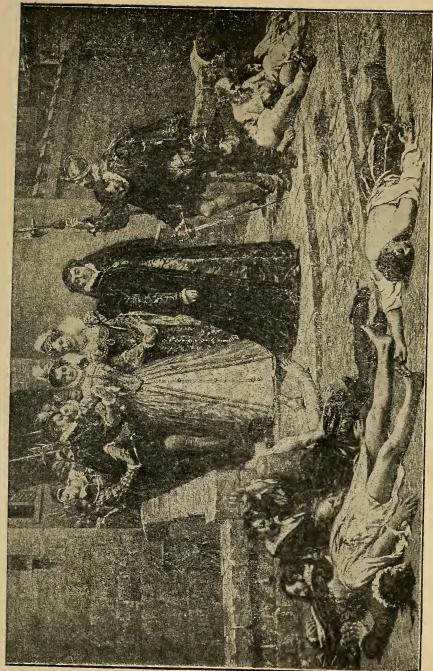
The preparations were complete. The houses of the victims had been marked and the men who were to do the fearful deed wore white badges so as to recognize one another. Those who did not wear such badges were to be shown no mercy.

The first house visited was Admiral Coligny's. He had been awakened by the clangor of the bells. He came down to the door in answer to the summons, and

one of the assassins pointed his sword at him.

"Are you the Admiral?" asked the ruffian.

"I am," was the firm reply; "do as you wish; you can only shorten my life by a few years." The sword was buried in the old hero's bosom, and he was flung into the street while yet alive. The Duke of Guise (he was the fourth duke of that name) exulted at the sight, and kicked the body, which was afterward hanged head downward.



The Morning After the Massacre of St. Bartholomew.

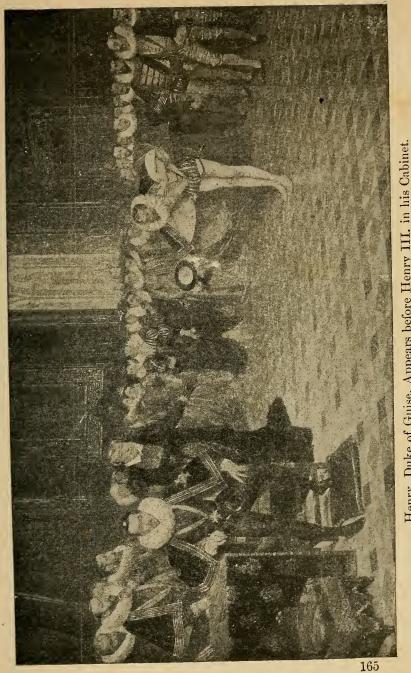
During the massacre Catherine de Medici looked on from the windows of the Louvre, and after its completion she and her court ladies walked forth to view the results of the deadliest crime in the history of France.

The work of slaughter thus begun lasted for three days. It extended to the provinces, but in some of them the authorities refused to join in the massacre and protected the Huguenots. No one knows how many were killed, but the number must have exceeded twenty thousand.

Instead of subduing the Huguenots the carnival of death roused them to frenzy and they fought with such success that the king was compelled to grant them terms. Charles died in 1574, his deathbed, it is said, being a scene of dreadful agony and remorse for the crime he had committed and to which he had been urged by his mother. He was succeeded by his brother Henry III., who was a weak and absolutely worthless man, and his mother still lived to blight and curse everything with which she had to do.

Henry began to persecute the Huguenots, but became alarmed by their resistance and made all the concessions they could ask and more than they expected. He gave important offices to Huguenots, making Henry, of Navarre, Governor of Guienne (ghe-yen), a province on the bay of Biscay, while the province of Picardy was presented to the young prince of Conde. The greatest delight of Henry III. was to play with his monkeys, parrots and several little spaniel dogs of which he was extremely fond, though some have thought be did this to hide the treacherous schemes that were hatching in his evil brain.

His liberality to the Huguenots caused his enemies to organize the Holy League, and the Duke of Guise began plotting for the throne. The formation of the League



Henry, Duke of Guise, Appears before Henry III. in his Cabinet.

Although forbidden to enter Paris, Guise came, and the populace received him with the honors of a king. They erected barricades and overpowered the royal troops; yet the barricades fell as if by magic and the troops were set free when Guise appeared with only a riding-whip in his hand.

caused a renewal of the strife, in which rather curiously there were three Henrys in the field—Henry III., Henry, Duke of Guise, and Henry of Navarre. All claimed to be fighting for religion, when each was thinking only of himself. Anarchy came again and those who brought it about quoted Scripture as their warrant for their crimes.

Henry III. wrote to the Duke of Guise forbidding him to come to Paris, but he went, claiming that he had not received the King's letter. The populace despised the King and sided with the Duke. Henry slipped out of Paris, and, at a council at his palace of Blois, he was so desperate that he hired a party of men to assassinate the Duke. Kicking the corpse he exclaimed: "I have killed the reptile and now am King of France." The dead man who lay at the King's feet was he who sixteen years before had served the corpse of Admiral Coligny in the same way. Soon after, the unspeakably wicked queen mother died.

Henry III. tried to make terms with both parties. The League scorned him, but Henry of Navarre came to his help. The Huguenot and royal troops united and advanced against Paris, the heart of the League. A humble monk came meekly forth and asked permission to speak to the King. When admitted to his presence, he suddenly drew a dagger from his clothing and stabbed him to death. Thus died Henry III. in 1589, and the House of Valois became extinct.

## CHAPTER XI.

HOUSE OF BOURBON.—1589-1792.

Henry IV.—Louis XIII.—Louis XIV.—(1589–1715).

HAVE told you that when Henry III. died, he left no one to inherit the throne Now Horse (N.) became Henry IV., was a descendant of the Duke of Bourbon, whose title was derived from a province in France of that name, the first duke having been created by Charles IV. in 1327. And that is the reason why the six kings who now began a rule lasting until the close of the eighteenth century, are said to belong to the House of Bourbon.

I am sure that in studying the events which form a part of the history of those stirring days, you will be interested in learning about the life, customs, manners and peculiarities of the people themselves. When the House of Valois ruled, there were no schools such as are common to-day. Teachers wandered about, giving instruction here and there, as they could collect pupils. methods of teaching were very crude and the teachers ruled with a rod of iron, inflicting punishments such as would land a man in prison in these days. The most famous institution was the University of Paris, whose students came from all parts of Europe, but one of its graduates did not know enough to pass examination for the freshman class in the smallest American college in these times.

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One of the favorite studies was astrology, by which is meant the influence of the stars upon the events of life. It was an absurd "science," founded on ignorance, for there could be nothing in it, though everybody believed in astrology. When you come across one of those frauds who claim to be fortune tellers, you will find that the man or woman makes a great pretense of consulting the stars to find out what is going to happen to you in the future; but no sensible person believes a word told by

those humbugs or astrologers.

The theatres gave representations of incidents from the Bible, or showed what may be termed the moralities of life. In 1385, on the occasion of the marriage of Charles VI. and Isabelle of Bavaria, a play was acted before them called "The History of the Death of our Saviour." It had nearly a hundred characters and the performance lasted eight days. This was the origin of the Passion Play, which is still performed in Bavaria and other places. Muskets called hand-cannons were first used at the siege of Arras in 1414. You will remember that Charles VI. was insane a good deal of his time, but there were intervals when he regained his right mind. In order to amuse him, the present playing cards were invented, and they were marked just as they are to day. Perhaps, however, you do not know the meaning of the different spots. The clubs (clover-leaves), meant the peasantry; the diamonds (tiles) the working people; the spades (pike-heads), the nobles or military, and the hearts meant the churchmen.

Under Louis XI. printing was encouraged, a school of

medicine was founded in Paris, a rude sort of postal system established and an attempt made to light the streets of the city. The fashions of dress changed then as they have continually since that time. While Louis XI. was on the throne, the style of long loose garments, long trains and sleeves for the ladies gave way to broad borders of velvet, fur, or silk. Later the head dress became so enormous that it sometimes rose to a height of three feet above the crown. Picture a fine lady walking about capped by such a balloon. The hair dressers were paid large sums to fix up the heads of the ladies of the court and it cannot be said they did not earn their pay. Think, too, of the peaked shoes so long that a man of fashion could not walk until he had first tied the toes to his knee, or, as was more than once the case, to his girdle. I remember an Indian chief some years ago, whose hair was plaited and tied to the tail of his horse as he rode about, that being the most convenient way of managing his head gear, but surely he did not look half so ridiculous as the French and English dandies several hundred years ago.

All the gentle folk were fond of perfumery. If walking on one side of the street you met one of them on the other side, you would know it, even if your eyes were shut, by the sickening odor wafted to you. No greater fops lived than many of those who hung round the court

and danced attendance on the ladies.

The dwellings of the rich were furnished with splendor. There were fine linen, rich carpets and tapestry, and costly furniture. Some of the houses had their fronts

adorned with projecting corner-posts on which were beautiful carvings of animals, angel heads, foliage, etc. Every castle had its extensive wine vault, cellar, laundry, bakery, fruitery and rooms for salt, glass, furs and tapestry, while

buildings were set apart for servants and retainers.

It seems strange that wolves should have prowled through the streets of Paris, often attacking and killing people, but they did, and many a time carried off and devoured children. Little was known of the science of medicine, and thousands died from pestilence and plagues which no doubt were caused by the unsanitary ways of

living.

Hunting and hawking were the chief amusements of the wealthy. The king had an immense establishment devoted to the chase, to which a large sum of money was appropriated every year. The hunting parties brought scores of gay people together, many of whom were ladies as eager and ardent as the men. Women painted their complexion and used patches as "beauty spots." It is said that Catharine de Medici introduced silk stockings, and at first only royalty wore gloves. Schools after a time began to appear, but most of the instruction was religious and the discipline always severe. The College of France, founded in 1530, gave instruction in Latin, Hebrew and Greek, because of which it was often called the College of Three Languages.

Although Henry IV. had become king, he had to fight to maintain his position. The League declared in favor of his uncle, the Cardinal de Bourbon, but the moderate Catholics united with the Huguenots. Henry, in 1589, won the battle of Arques (ark), in Normandy and the following year he gained a still greater victory at Ivry (ee-vree'), nearly fifty miles west of Paris, and now called Anet.

The army of the Leaguers was about 16,000, of whom one-fourth were cavalry; the royalists had 8,000 infantry and 3,000 horsemen, armed only with swords and pistols. "Keep your ranks in good order," said Henry to his men. "If you lose your ensigns, cornets or guides, the white plume on my helmet will be at the front and will lead you to honor and glory."

"And in they burst, and on they rushed, while like a guiding star,

Amidst the thickest carnage, blazed the helmet of
Navarre,"

Two hours of desperate fighting was followed by the tumultous flight of the Leaguers and the road to Paris was open. The siege was pressed and the defenders held out even when suffering the pangs of starvation. At the end of four months, help reached them and the siege came to naught. The war went on with varying success. Henry was helped by the English troops under the Earl of Essex, and finally in 1593, changed his religion from Protestant to Catholic, but it required several years more to secure himself on the throne. A war with Philip of Spain was concluded by a treaty in 1598, in which year Henry granted the famous Edict of Nantes (nants), which gave entire liberty of conscience to the Huguenots and allowed them to hold offices of honor and pay.

The devastating war being over, the king turned his attention to improving the condition of his kingdom. Roads and canals were constructed and brought all parts



Henry IV. Playing with His Children.

of the country into communication. Traffic and commerce were so much encouraged that much wealth and prosperity followed. Great progress was made in manufactures, mining and indeed all branches of industry. Taxation was put as low as possible and yet nearly all of the public debt was paid. In this work, the King was greatly aided by the able and honest Duke of Sully.

One of the most pleasing pictures of Henry of Navarre represents him at home frolicking with his

children. Once when the Austrian ambassador called to see him, he found the King on all fours with his little son, his toy flag held aloft, riding on his back. "Are you a father, sir?" asked the King, looking up at his caller. "Yes, sire." "Then we will finish our game," said the King, who devoted several minutes to the boisterous sport, while the amused visitor looked on.

Henry, however, gave offense to the Catholics by de-

claring in favor of the Protestant princes of Germany in their dispute with the emperor. A good many did not believe in his conversion to Catholicism, but he prepared to set out for the seat of war, when, as he was riding in his carriage through the streets of Paris, he was stabbed to death (1610) by a half-crazy fanatic. This man, instead of being thanked as he expected to be for his crime, was tortured to death. The king was mourned by all, who forgot in admiring his ability and force of

character the vices that marked his private life.

Louis XIII. (the Just) was only nine years old when his father was assassinated, and his mother, Mary de Medici became regent. Sully, the brilliant and able minister under Henry IV., became so disgusted with the favoritism shown by her to the Italian court attendants and by her foolish wilfulness, that he resigned and went to live on his estate. The foster sister of the queen-mother married an Italian named Concini (con-chee'-ne), who was created Marshal of France, an honor hitherto only conferred upon those that had distinguished themselves in battle. Concini and other favorites showed their baseness by plotting to get the crown from the young King. Their infamous work stirred up the most bitter enmity, but the Queen seemed to fall wholly under the influence of Concini. Louis began to rebel, and, penetrating the base character of Concini, he had him assassinated as he was entering the Louvre. His wife was put to death as a sorceress. All power was taken from the Queen who was exiled to Blois. She succeeded in escaping however, and reached Angiers where she was permitted to remain.

At the assembly of the States-General in 1614 (whose petition to the Queen was so contemptuously treated that the slaying of the Condé followed), one of the members, Richelieu (reesh'e-lu), attracted attention by the display of extraordinary talents. Two years later he was made cardinal, and in 1624 became the chief, adviser of the King. From that time forward until his death eighteen years afterward, he was the real king of France.

Richelieu loved order, power and stability. His first aim was to make the crown supreme. He believed in an unflinching honest despotism and displayed an impartiality such as the country had never seen before. The high in rank could no longer buy themselves off from punishment. The law that was meted out to the peasant

was the same law to which the lord had to bow.

Richelieu showed no mercy to swindling contractors. When detected, he gave them the choice of restoring every penny or paying with their lives. An attempt to bribe him was a mortal insult, and quarrelsome nobles were made to understand that they must be very careful as to the circumstances under which they drew their swords. If any one dared to rebel, he was made quickly to feel the grip of the stern master, even when the offender was the brother of the king.

All over France were great towering castles, which had often served for fortresses and where rebels again might intrench themselves and defy the King. The most formidable of these were torn down, while the offices in the army and navy that had made the holders really petty sovereigns were abolished. The provincial courts of



Assassination of Marshal Concini by Order of Louis XIII.
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justice were revived, and in them the laboring man could bring suit against the lord who had oppressed him. Huguenots were brought into submission and the Pro-

testant power in France was crushed.

One ambition of Richelieu was to humble the power of Austria, and to bring this about he took part in the Thirty Years War on the side of the Protestants against Spain and the empire. This war broke out in the Netherlands in 1635, and, although the King's officers gained some advantages at first, they were defeated the following year, and the imperialists who invaded France penetrated to within three days' march of the capital; but the energy of Richelieu triumphed over every obstacle and

the French conquered Alsace and other territories.

The unrelenting vigor and honesty of the cardinal raised up many enemies among the princes and nobles who plotted to destroy him, but he thwarted all their schemes and executed several of the leaders, among them being Cinq Mars, a young marquis only twenty-two years old, and his friend De Thou. He compelled every foreign power to respect France, gave the country a stability it had never known before, and as I have said, was the real King until his death in 1642, followed six months later by that of the King. Richelieu is often referred to as the "Red Cardinal," because of the color of his robe. He had as a companion a Capuchin monk, named Joseph. He was very cunning and able, and the "Grey Cardinal" was held in almost as much awe and fear by the people as his master.

The heir to the throne was Louis XIV., who was



Cinq Mars and De Thou Going to Execution. 12—Ellis' France.

hardly five years old. Since his nominal reign began at that time and lasted until 1715, it spanned the enormous period of seventy-two years, though in actual extent it was less than that of Queen Victoria who was full Queen from the first.

The regency was intrusted to Anne of Austria, mother of the King, who selected as her prime minister Cardinal Mazarin, who had been trained under Richelieu. The Thirty Years War still went on, but the French were so uniformly successful that the Germans asked for peace, which was made in 1648, and the boundaries of France

were fixed very much as they are to-day.

In 1648 the people rose in rebellion against the unjust and oppressive taxation. This uprising is called the civil war of the Fronde, the word meaning "slingers," and referred to the vagrant boys of Paris who fought with slings. No doubt one cause of the revolt was that which was going on in England at that time against Charles I. The chief leader of the rebellion was Cardinal de Retz (rates), and it was not until 1653, and after much difficulty, that it was put down.

Cardinal Mazarin died in 1661, and then Louis became his own minister. He showed remarkable sagacity and ability, and through the greatness of his military enterprises, his splendid schemes for the internal improvement of his kingdom, his magnificent court ceremonial and his liberal patronage of literature, the arts and sciences, he won the title of Louis the Grand or the Great. His government was an absolute despotism. His great helpers were Colbert (kole-bare') with the finances, and his prime minister Louvois (loo-vwah').



Richelieu and Father Joseph.
"The Red and Grey Cardinals,"

Louis seized Flanders and Franche Comtè (fransh kong'ta), but was checked in his career of conquest by the triple alliance of England, Holland and Sweden. The king's anger was specially turned against Holland. He bribed Charles II., of England to help him, secured the promise of neutrality from the other powers, and led his

armies in person across the Rhine.

Holland, although a powerful nation, was in great danger, for she was not united. One party was the nobility, led by the Prince of Orange, afterward William III., of England, and the other the merchants and burghers, but she had a powerful navy commanded by the two most famous admirals of Europe, Van Tromp and De Ruyter (ri'ter). At first the French were successful, and several of the Dutch provinces were occupied, but the tide soon turned in favor of the defenders. Amsterdam was relieved of its besiegers by cutting the dikes and letting in the sea; the allied fleets were destroyed by the Dutch admirals and the shrewd William of Orange broke up the English alliance with France and secured the aid of Austria and Germany; but although confronted by allied Europe, Louis gained a number of successes and the Dutch fleets were defeated in the Mediterranean, De Ruyter being among the killed. But the combination against Louis became so powerful that he asked for peace and a treaty was concluded in 1678, which gave France no advantages.

The queen died in 1683, and soon afterward the king secretly married Madame de Maintenon (mah-ta-nong'), a woman who had long possessed great influence over him

and which she kept to the end. It was through her persuasions that he took the unwise step of revoking the

Edict of Nantes in 1685. This was followed by a. furious persecution of the Huguenots, many of whom fled from the country, some settling in England, some in Germany and some in America. The revocation of the Edict of Nantes was a terribly destructive blow to the prosperity of France, which it is



Admiral De Ruyter.

believed lost fully 100,000 of her most industrious citizens, among whom were 9,000 sailors, 12,000 veteran soldiers, and 600 officers, besides \$60,000,000 of money.

You have learned in the history of England that when James II. was dethroned he took refuge at the French court. Louis supported his cause, because of which war was declared between England and France in 1689. The great powers of Europe combined against Louis who after seven years of the tremendous struggle was compelled to make the humiliating treaty of Ryswick (riz'wik) in 1697.

In 1701 came the senseless war of the Spanish Succession. When Charles II. of Spain died, Louis claimed the throne of Spain for his grandson Philip V., while the German Emperor claimed it for his own son, afterward Emperor Charles VI. This caused an alliance between Germany and Holland against Louis, the alliance being joined by William of Orange, because Louis had recognized the son of James II. as King of England. The battle ground was Spain, Belgium, Germany and Italy. The French had to contend against the wonderful genius of Marlborough, who, it was said, never lost a battle or failed to take a fortress, and Prince Eugene.

At Blenheim (blen'im), in 1704, Marlborough and Prince Eugene saved Austria which was exposed to attack, by uniting their forces in Bavaria and attacking the French army when it was in a bad position. The lines were easily broken by Marlborough, and one of the French commanders and an entire corps that had not been in the fight were captured. Within a month Bavaria was conquered, the elector put to flight and the imperialists made their appearance again on the Rhine. The war was ended in 1713. by the treaty of Utrecht



Prince Eugene of Savoy.

(u-tret'). Louis was obliged to surrender to England some of his possessions in America but he secured the recogni-

tion of Philip V. as King of Spain.

One of the strangest mysteries of history is connected with the reign of Louis XIV. A state prisoner was first confined at Pignerol (peen-ye-erol) in 1679; two years later he was removed to Exilles; then in 1687 to the island of St. Marguerite and finally in September, 1698, to the great Bastile prison where he died, November 19, 1703. He wore at all times a black iron mask, which completely hid his face. He was attended everywhere by M. de St. Mars, and, although the first move on the part of the prisoner to tell his name would have been followed by instant death, he was treated with the utmost courtesy. A great many attempts have been made to solve the identity of the Man with the Iron Mask. Ingenious writers seemed to have proved that he was fully half a dozen different persons, but of course, all except one of the writers, and probably he also, have been wrong. The most general belief at the present time is that the Man with the Iron Mask was Count Matthioli (mat-te-o-le), minister of the Duke of Mantua, and that, having broken faith with Louis XIV., he was lured to the French frontier and arrested May 2, 1679. But the mystery will never be fully cleared up.

The condition of France was dreadful, and the old King was in gloom. Everything seemed to have gone wrong with him. His army existed only in name, his navy consisted of a few old hulks, his treasury was empty, his son and grandson upon whom he had counted

to continue his grandeur were dead; Madame de Maintenon had left him, so he folded his hands and on September 1, 1515, closed his eyes in death.

## CHAPTER XII.

HOUSE OF BOURBON (Continued).—1589–1792.

 $(Louis\ XV.-1715-1774).$ 

HERE was another squalling infant only five years old that was heir to the crown of France. The once glorious realm was in the depths of poverty, with the peasantry barely able to coax enough from the ground to keep them from starving, and with a debt equal to \$1,000,000,000 to-day crushing the nation to the very earth.

The good-natured and worthless Duke of Orleans acted as regent during the minority of Louis XV. He formed an alliance with England and Holland and later one was formed on the part of England, Holland, Austria, and France to check Spain in her efforts to gain posses-

sion of the crown of France.

No government can get on without money, but the problem with the regent was how to obtain it when the people were so wretchedly poor. While puzzling his brain over the question, a Scotchman named John Law came forward (1715) with a scheme for lifting the gov-

ernment out of the pit in which it was floundering. His plan was to open a bank connected with the State, which was to use paper money in the place of gold and silver. Law gave out at the beginning that he had a capital of six million francs, equal to more than a million dollars. He cunningly started by sending out small notes which were paid with specie as soon as presented at the bank. This made the people believe that the institution was "solid," and hundreds of persons with a little capital at command, bought stock in the bank. Then the government gave it a charter as a royal bank, and ordered that its bills should be accepted in payment of taxes, custom house duties and all debts due the government.

And now Law sprang one of the wildest schemes that ever set a nation crazy and plunged it into financial ruin. What appeared to be truthful reports said that the valley of the Mississippi River in America was crowded with rich mines of gold and silver, and Law organized the Mississippi Company which promised to make all who invested in it richer than they had ever dreamed of being. Then Law added an African and West Indian trading scheme, and at that the whole nation seemed to lose its wits. Crowds fought for the chance to invest their savings, and the scenes were such as would meet you in this country if the richest gold mines that ever existed were found in one of our large cities. Perhaps you can form some idea of the picture when told that a share which sold at first for \$100 jumped up to \$4,000, and there was a wild scramble to obtain the stock at that astounding figure. Law's house was in danger of being

swept off its foundations by the nobles, bishops, tradesmen, women and servants who were frantic to become

rich at the hands of this magician.

And then the crash came like a thunderbolt from a summer sky. Law seems really to have believed in his insane scheme, for he went down in the general ruin, and counted himself lucky that he was able to get out of France with his life. Of course, thousands were ruined by the "Mississippi Bubble," and the government saved itself by repudiating, that is, refusing to pay its obligations, as it had done before and has done since.

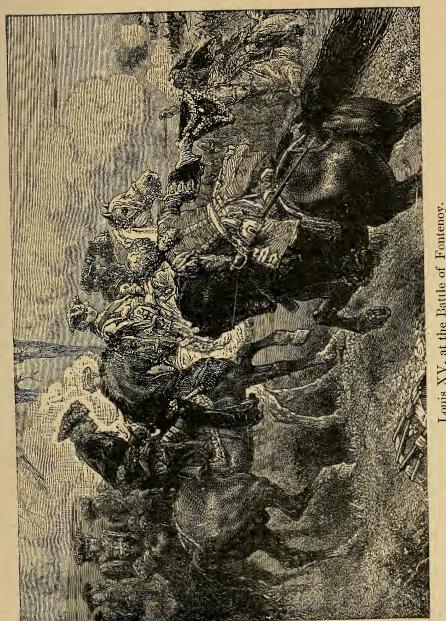
Louis XV. began ruling at the age of thirteen, which was in 1723. He was a genuine Bourbon of whom Napoleon said "they never forgot and never learned anything." He believed in the divine right of kings, and was sure he knew it all. It followed, therefore, that no one had the right to decide how he should worship God, but must let this boy decide that all important matter for him. The Huguenots were again cruelly persecuted and he made war against the Emperor of Germany in order to compel him to replace the father-in-law of Louis on the throne of Poland. The dispute was settled by the Emperor giving the duchy of Lorraine to the King who had been driven out, with the pledge that it should fall to his daughter, the Queen of France, upon the death of her father.

The death of the German emperor was followed by a formidable war over the succession to the throne of Austria. Now, observe what a piece of foolery the whole miserable business was. Before he died the emperor left

Austria to his daughter Maria Theresa, but hardly had he closed his eyes, when no less than six claimants bobbed

up and demanded a part or all of the kingdom.

Maria Theresa had the documents to prove her right, but grim old Frederick the Great, King of Prussia, said she needed fewer papers and more fighting men. George II. of England headed an army to help the young Queen; France took the other side and sent troops as a guarantee of its good faith; others joined in until it looked as if all Europe was fighting. Beginning in 1741, the war which is known as the War of the Austrian Succession lasted seven years. George II., as you have been told elsewhere, was the last English King to fight in person, and at Dettingen, a village in Bavaria, he administered a crushing defeat to the French. Then Louis took the field, but before he could do anything he fell sick, which perhaps was a fortunate thing for his army. At Fontenoy, a village of Belgium, a great battle was fought April 30, 1745, between the allied English, Dutch and Hanoverians, commanded by the Duke of Cumberland, and the French under Marshal de Saxe. The latter were victorious and captured Brussels the next year and then conquered the Austrian Netherlands. Still other successes were gained, but the French met with defeat else-The treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle was signed in Maria Theresa was recognized as ruler of Austria, each party gave back the territory it had conquered, and all was as it might have been in the first place, except for such trifles as the losses of millions of money and thousands of lives. The War for the Austrian Succession illustrates the folly and wickedness of nearly all wars.



Louis XV. at the Battle of Fontenoy.

Louis was ready to appropriate the successes of his generals. On the tomb of Marshal Saxe, in the church of St. Thomas, Strasburg, may be read: "Louis XV., the author and witness of his victories, caused this monument to be erected," etc.

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By this time England and France had become the great rivals in the New World. The English settlements were strewn along the Atlantic coast from Maine to Florida, but there was none at any distance from the sea. France occupied and owned Canada. Her explorers had been busy for years and she determined to take possession of all the country from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico through the Mississippi Valley, thereby meaning the country drained by that immense river and its tributaries. She had planted some sixty forts over that long extent, and her dream was to build a great empire in the heart of the American continent.

But England had her eyes open. It would be more truthful to say that her colonies on the other side of the Atlantic were alert. When they obtained their grants or rights to lands from the English monarchs, the documents said that those grants extended straight across the continent to the Pacific Ocean. It is true that no one imagined the Pacific was half so far off as proved to be the fact, but that made no difference. The French were trespassing upon land claimed by Virginia and other colonies, and they wouldn't stand it. Governor Dinwiddie, of Virginia, sent a letter to the French commandant in the northwestern corner of Pennsylvania, suggesting that the best way for him to keep out of trouble was to hurry and leave the country. The French officer replied that he meant to stay where he was, and, furthermore, he would hustle every Englishman back to where he belonged, if he dared to set foot on the soil, which the Englishmen had the impudence to claim, though it clearly belonged to the good King of France.

Do you know who the young man was that carried the letter of the Virginian governor, 500 miles through

the wilderness and brought back the defiant reply of the French commandant? I am so sure that his name is familiar to you that I shall not mention it.

Then the fighting began. At first it was favorable to France, whose commander, Montcalm, was one of the best military men that ever served her, and he gained many



The Death of Wolfe.

successes; but when William Pitt, the great Commoner, became prime minister of England, he turned out the poor officers, put good ones in their places, sent more troops across the ocean, and from that time the English armies

gained ground. The death struggle took place in front of Quebec, in the autumn of 1759. Montcalm, commander of the French and Wolfe, commander of the English, were both killed, but the victory was with the English. Four years later (1763), the treaty of Paris was signed by which France gave up all her possessions in America, except two little fishing islands off Newfoundland. Because of the momentous consequences which flowed from the conflict on the Plains of Abraham, in front of Quebec, that struggle is ranked as among the decisive battles of the world.

Meanwhile, something similar took place in India. After a good deal of fighting, Lord Clive gained a decisive victory at Plassy in 1757, followed by the expulsion of the French from India, where England built up one of her grandest of empires, whose population is eight times

as great as her own.

This was not the sum of France's misfortunes. Maria Theresa was soured against Prussia, because she had to give up a part of her dominions to Frederick the Great, and she sought an alliance with France and other nations hoping to conquer Prussia and divide the kingdom among them. Louis was disinclined to join this alliance, for he had his hands full in America, but his favorite, Madame de Pompadour (pom-pah-doohr') whom he could refuse nothing, persuaded him to join her dear friend Maria Theresa. Frederick, seeing his danger, formed an alliance with England and the Seven Years' war formally opened.

England did not give much help to Frederick the

Great, for that remarkable man did not need it. He was

able to save his country, which in time rose to become one of the foremost Powers of Eu-

rope.

There was a strong feeling in France against the Jesuits. The Huguenots hated them for the part they had taken in the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, and in the frightful persecution of the Protestants that followed. Many Catholics distrusted them and Cardinal Richelieu condemned the



Trederick the Great.

pamphlets which they issued. Finally, in 1761, the Parliament of Paris by formal vote suppressed the order

13-Ellis' France.

in France. Spain did the same, and in 1773, Pope Clem-

ent XIV. solemnly abolished the society.

At last in 1774, Louis, worn out with debauchery and every kind of sinful indulgence, and utterly detested by his people, with his country on the verge of anarchy and ruin, died.

## CHAPTER XIII.

HOUSE OF BOURBON (Continued).—1589–1792.

Louis XVI.—(1774–1792).

HAVE you ever seen a king or queen? If so, probably the first thought that came to you was that the monarch was only an ordinary looking person, no more, no less, and no different, except for the high office he or she happened to hold, from the men and women whom you have been used to seeing all your life.

Now, suppose you go with a policeman, some dark night, into the lowest and most wretched part of a great city. Let him haul out of the gutter a miserable, drunken woman in rags, foul in dress and speech, and drag her to the police station. There he may turn her over to the care of the matron, as they call the motherly woman in attendance. Let her have the poor wretch washed, cleaned, and, after she has had time to become sober, let the matron clothe her in silks and fine linen,

deck her with costly jewels, place a crown on her head and set her on a throne. She would still be the same woman that was dragged from the slums, but as a queen and ruler of millions of human beings, far better and more worthy than she, she would be the equal in every respect of some of the queens who have sat on the thrones of England, France, Russia, Spain and other leading Powers of Christendom.

Let us go next to the State prison and under charge of the keeper, pass along the gloomy corridors and peep into the different cells. Pausing in front of one, we peer through the little window or opening in the iron door, and see a prisoner whose face reminds us of a wild beast. His hair is matted, he is scowling, and his brutal features are contorted with the evil thoughts to which he has been a slave for years. You would shudder and flee if you met him on a lonely road, and are glad that the iron door is between you and him.

"He is waiting to be taken out and hanged or put in the electric chair," whispers the attendant; "he deserves death a hundred times for the frightful crimes he has committed. He is a thief, a burglar, a gambler, a drunkard, a murderer and a liar; the only thing to do for the safety of society is to hustle such wretches out of the world as quickly as possible. We are well rid of them."

Let two or three powerful men enter the cell and hold and bind the criminal so that he can do no harm; let him be dragged out, his clothing changed for comely raiment and then his attendants can set a crown on his head, fling him upon a waiting throne and say: "Now govern the nation just as your depraved nature

prompts you to govern."

That man would be the equal in every respect of some of the kings who have sat on the thrones of England, France, Russia, Spain and other leading Powers in Christendom.

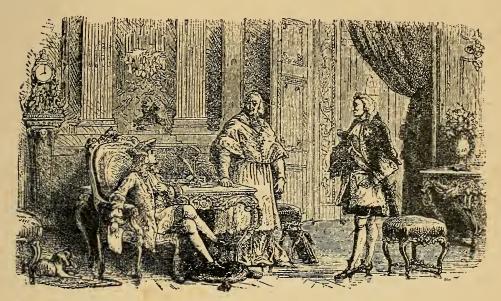
After we have left the prison, let us stop for a few minutes and look into the insane asylum. The heart is saddened by the sight of the unfortunate victims to one of the most mysterious maladies that afflict this poor human nature of ours. Perhaps in a padded cell, a wild, shrieking man is seen raging back and forth, with his hands tied behind his back to prevent his harming himself. After we have stood for a few minutes in pitying horror, suppose we are able to soothe his frenzy by gentle words, and he allows us to coax him out of his cell. While he is in this quiet mood, we clothe him in the robes of a monarch, set him on a throne, place a sceptre in his hand and shout:

"Now shriek, rage, kill and destroy! You are the ruler of millions and can do as you please and no one

dare call you to account!"

That man would be the equal in every respect of some of the kings who have sat on the thrones of England, France, Russia, Spain and other leading Powers in Christendom.

If we did not feel too sick at heart, we might look into some other cells. Perhaps one sad sight stops us. It is that of a drooling idiot, with hanging jaw, slobbering lips, lack-lustre eyes, who laughs horribly, and has less sense and wit than a lady's poodle. He does not know enough to be violent or to resist, and is led out as meekly as a lamb. He looks in giggling wonder at the fine clothes in which we array him, and wants to play with



Louis XV. in His Cabinet.

the glittering bauble which we try to set on his head, but he is persuaded to let it stay there, as we lead him to his throne and leave him to rule millions of intelligent men and women.

That man would be the equal in every respect of some of the kings who have sat on the thrones of England, France, Russia, Spain and other leading Powers in Christendom.

Now mind I do not say this of all rulers of those

countries. Some of the best men and women that have ever lived have occupied their thrones, and to-day every one of those I have named is governed wisely and patriotically by him or her who holds the highest position in the realm; but in the case of Spain, we have to go back only to the revolution of 1868, to find a queen who deserved all the harsh words I have used.

Compare the rotten monarchial system with that which has prevailed in our own country from the immortal Washington down to our present President. In that list of a quarter of a hundred have been a few who made mistakes, who have been criticised, who have not always remembered the dignity of their high office and who have occasionally been moved by resentment and anger in their acts; but how it stirs every American's heart with pride to know that each one of our Presidents, without exception, was a patriot, that he was honest, intelligent, truthful, of superior intellect, and that the one all-controlling ambition and aim of his life was to serve his country in the best way he knew how. Our presidential line is the purest, most exalted and most illustrious that has ever swayed the destinies of any nation or any people.

One of the many strange facts connected with the history of different countries is that, for generations and centuries, their inhabitants tamely submitted to such tyranny at the hands of those whom the accident of birth placed over them. Throughout those times, the people were mighty, all-powerful, resistless. If they chose, they could have swept the inhuman wretches and their corrupt courts from their path, like so much chaff; but in-

stead they bowed their heads to the yoke, kissed the hand that smote them, and suffered and died, and with their

dying breath murmured: "Long live the king! He can do no wrong!"

It would be a hard task to explain why all this was as it was, but a few words may be said in explanation. The people were ignorant and sodden of brain, because their situation had been growing worse for generations. They felt their wrongs, but seemed to think it was all the will of heaven and there was no help on earth for them.

They might brood over their misery, but they did



Louis XV.

not know how to unite, to act effectively, nor did they have any of their own number capable of uniting and leading them. So, as long as they could toil and keep body and soul together, they bent their backs to the burden and

meekly accepted the blows.

But there is a limit to all human endurance. It is said, you know, that the crushed worm will turn, and wretched, ignorant and stupid as men may be, there is a point beyond which they cannot be driven. France had been steadily approaching that point and was now close

upon it.

You can hardly believe the condition of the French peasants and laborers under Louis XV. and his successor, Louis XVI. In the first place, it was the laboring classes who paid all the taxes, which the upper classes devoured in extravagance, gayety, luxurious living and debauchery. The clergy and nobility did not pay any taxes and lived on the fat of the land. The laborer had to give up one-half, three-fourths, and finally four-fifths of all he could scrape together to the tax gatherer, who was forever at his elbow. He would lift up the lid of the box in which the peasant kept his salt.

"It's time you bought more salt," the master would say.

"But I'm in need of none; I have salted my meat and have enough left over for my family," would be the humble answer of the peasant.

"Don't contradict me! You must buy a couple of

bushels."

"Very well; as you say; I will buy it."

And buy it he would, paying the price which his master chose to place on it. The master would steal half of what he received and turn the other half over to the Crown.

Perhaps when the peasant and his wife and children were toiling with might and main on their little



"Might makes right."—The Robber Barons.

patch of land, the noble living near in his castle would send word that he needed them to help gather his crops. It

made no difference if the stoppage of work meant the ruin of his own tiny harvest, the peasant had to hurry off to the assistance of the noble, who might keep him toiling for weeks and then would not pay him a penny for his labor, nor give him a mouthful of food while so employed. Enough honor for a dog simply to work for his master.

Many a time the lazy pampered noble and his family would find that the croaking of frogs disturbed them at night and prevented sleep. Orders would be sent to the nearest peasants to keep the frogs still, and those poor people would have to tramp the swamps and bogs all night through, beating about them with sticks so as to scare the frogs into holding their dismal voices mute, that the noble and his family might snore in peace.

All at once, some fine day, fifty or more mounted ladies and gentlemen and their pack of hounds would come rushing through the garden of a peasant, trampling into ruin all his vegetables and plants upon which he and his family depended for food. If he ventured to beg the party, when he saw them approaching, to spare his little all, one of the dandies would swirl his whip across his face, raising a bloody welt, and then all would laugh and the ladies would say that the fellow was served right for his impudence.

One day the carriage of a nobleman was rattling through the streets of Paris. In rapidly turning a corner, a cry of agony rent the air. The driver had run over a small child, and so injured it that it lay bleeding and dying on the ground. Its frenzied mother ran out,

caught it up in her arms, wailing with grief and vainly trying to bring it back to life. But it was dead beyond recall.

Hearing the cry, the nobleman languidly raised his head, looked out and asked an explanation of the driver, who replied that he had just run over a child.

"Ah, did any of its blood get on the paint?"

The driver leaned over and scrutinized the glittering varnish of the equipage.

"No, sire; the paint has not been soiled."

"I was afraid it might have been stained; drive on," commanded the noble with a sigh of relief, as he sank

back on his downy seat.

Similar incidents might be told without number, but you have learned enough to form an idea of the frightful condition of France, under Louis XV. Even that bloated wretch knew that this could not go on forever. He heard the mutterings in the heavens, and knew that the storm would soon break and the cyclone rage; but with a satanic smile he said to his woman partner in crime: "After us the deluge, but things will last until we are out of the way; so why need we care?"

And they went on with their wickedness and did not care. One of the ladies of the court, when told that the peasants had no bread to eat, replied with the question:

"Why then don't they eat cake?"

When one thinks of the unspeakable vileness and depravity of Louis XV., he must recall that day, when a pure, innocent little child, his proud family showed him to the thousands gathered outside the palace, who shouted

and cheered him to the echo. Of him it could be truly said at the time that of such was the kingdom of heaven, while in his later years, it could be added with impressive



Louis XV. Shown to the People.

truthfulness, "of such is hades composed." It is inconceivable that human nature is capable of a more fearful descent than was presented in the case of this monarch.

Such was the France inherited by Louis XVI., when he was twenty years old. The new King was fat, flabby, coarse and ignorant, with bulging eyes, a retreating chin and a wabbly walk. One of his chief delights was to mend locks and tinker with tools. Nature thus indicated the career for him and pity it is he could not have kept

to it. He was a glutton, who stuffed himself like a pig. He ate so ravenously on his wedding night, that his friends were alarmed and mildly suggested that he should be more moderate.

"Let me alone," replied the royal porker; "I can always sleep best on a big meal."

A favorite trick of the King was, when he saw a laborer carrying a load which kept his hands employed,

to slip up behind him and wiggle his fingers under the man's arm or neck, so as to make him drop the load.

Then the King would throw back his head and guffaw, thinking it the finest fun in the world.

The only thing that can be said in favor of Louis XVI. is that he was not a bad man at heart. He wished to rule for the good of his people, but he didn't know how. He was as unstable as water, hesitating when he ought to have acted promptly, stubborn when he should have yielded, bewildered when he should have been cool, and with an absolute genius for making blunders. To make the combination perfect, he required a



Maria Antoinette.

gay, frivolous, beautiful wife, unable to understand the grave responsibilities of her position, and that is exactly what he had in Maria Antoinette (an-twah-net'), daughter of Maria Theresa of Austria.

Before proceeding with the history of events that directly concerned France, I must refer to those that affected our own country. Shortly after Louis XVI. came to the throne, the American Revolution broke out. France may have felt some sympathy for the Americans, but she yearned to strike a blow against her old enemy

England. We needed foreign help in our war for independence, and would not have been successful at that time without it. The American Congress never did a shrewder thing than when it sent Benjamin Franklin, the wit, philosopher and statesman to the French court at Versailles (ver-sailz') to try to gain the support of France in our struggle. No foreign potentate could have been more ardently welcomed. His plain, homely dress, his long hair without any wig, his quaint remarks in broken French, his good nature, his quick wit and his ever ready common sense, made him the favorite of King, Queen, nobles and ladies of the gay court. His picture was displayed in all the shops and Franklin hats and canes

were seen everywhere.

France hesitated, for she knew that open aid to the United States would bring on a war with England, and she waited until the Americans should gain some decisive advantage before taking so important a step. That came in the autumn of 1777, with the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga. A few months later the independence of the United States was recognized, and a treaty was signed with the United States, which was the first foreign one made by our government. Bankrupt as was France, she presented the Americans with a sum equal to nearly two million dollars, and in the course of the war, loaned them three millions more. From that time forward France was united with the United States in her war with England, though she did not give much real help until the final campaign at Yorktown, where Cornwallis was obliged to surrender to the allied fleets and armies of America and France.

## CHAPTER XIV.

HOUSE OF BOURBON (Continued).—1589-1792.

Louis XVI. (1774–1792.—Continued).

THERE was a good deal of meaning in the remark that in the presence of Louis XIV. no one dared to speak; under Louis XV. the speaking had to be in whispers, but under Louis XVI. all spoke out loud. The American Revolution was a powerful cause in bringing about the revolt in France, for the officers and soldiers who came back had seen with their own eyes the wonderful success of democratic government. Another warning sign of the times was the general spirit of questioning, inquiry and doubt shown by the leading writers. They questioned the rights of government, of existing social institutions and of religion, as it manifested itself around them. All felt that trouble was coming. It was in the air.

The king did not know how to begin the work of reform, but he showed his good intentions by restoring the Parliaments which had been abolished by Louis XV. Then he placed the important department of finance in the hands of an eminent statesman and financier, Turgot (toor-goh'). This man set to work with honesty and vigor, but the difficulties were prodigious. The late king had a habit of collecting the taxes several years in ad-

vance, and there seemed to be no way of getting enough

money to run the government.

The collection of customs had been carried to an extreme. The custom houses stood not only at the principal seaports and along the foreign frontier, but fringed the boundaries of each province and county. So rigidly were these oppressive taxes enforced that a workman could not cross the Rhone without paying duty on his scanty lunch, which he carried with him. The vexatious tax on salt remained.

Now if there was any single thing self-evident to Turgot, it was that the nobles and clergy should be compelled to pay a fair share of the taxes. This was not only demanded by justice, but in no other way could the

indispensable funds be secured.

It did not require any explanation from Turgot for the king to see all this and he assured his minister of finance that he would stand by him. The humble parish priests sided with the people, and everything looked promising. But the nobles and clergy raised a clamor against Turgot and his reforms, and the king was weak enough to dismiss him. This was a colossal blunder on the part of Louis.

But money must be had and the king now called a wealthy Swiss banker named Necker to drag the country out of the mire. Necker's wealth and wide credit enabled him to secure a number of large loans, and for a time matters went along swimmingly. Maria Antoinette had enough funds to indulge in frivolity and gaiety, and the king put on his apron and began filing keys and tinkering

locks, pausing now and then to gorge himself with food until he grunted with enjoyment.

Meanwhile the country was drifting toward the roaring

Niagara a short distance below. Necker showed that the nobility were only a drag upon the country and of no help at all. This made the nobles mad, and they demanded that the king should dismiss him, and again the miserable fool did as they wished. Bewildered over the way matters were going, he summoned a meeting of the notables, as the court was called. They met and talked and talked and adjourned without doing any-



Turgot Receiving His Dismissal.

thing. Then the dazed king, not knowing which way to turn, stopped tinkering his locks long enough to recall the clear-minded and honest Necker.

This man resolved, as the saying goes, to take the bull by the horns. He told the king that he must call a meeting of the States-General. Louis was startled and



Necker.

would not listen to it. That body of law makers had not met since 1614; they would be likely to take matters in their own hands, and bring up the

king with a sharp turn.

"It must be done, sire," said Necker firmly; "no other course is open; unless you consent I must be relieved of the duty to which you have summoned me."

Reluctantly the king gave his assent. This was in 1789, and the States-General was summoned.

You have learned in another place that the States-General was made up of the nobility, clergy and the representatives of the common people who formed what was called the Third Estate. Necker arranged that these should equal in number those that represented the other two branches. They really outnumbered them, for there were 291 clergy, 270 nobles and 584 members of the Third Estate, while 200 of the parish priests strongly sympathized and voted with them.

Thus it would seem that a great advantage was in the hands of the common people from the start, but upon

assembling at Versailles, a quarrel arose as to how the vote should be taken, that is, whether the three orders should vote as separate bodies or together. Of course the

Third Estate insisted upon the latter, and the others as vehemently opposed, for the result of the decision could not fail to be decisive.

The deadlock lasted for several weeks, the representatives repeatedly sending invitations to the other two-bodies to join them, while they refused every such request. Finally the parish priests among the clergy with drew, and crossing over, joined the Third



Costumes of the Third Estate, the Clergy and the Nobles.

Estate. The latter had lost all patience and now took a bold step. The members cast off the old name of States-General and organized themselves as the National Assembly, that is, as the representatives of the whole nation.

The king had gradually come under the influence of his wife, Maria Antoinette, and he showed fitful spells of firmness, or rather stubbornness, when it would have been vastly better had he been yielding. The nobles and clergy protested against the action of the Third Estate, and the king closed the hall against them. They met in the tennis court of the palace, and there bound themselves by a solemn oath not to dissolve until they had furnished a written Constitution to France. Soon afterwards they gave themselves the name of the National Constituent Assembly.

The king began to think there might be something in all this to which it was well for him to give heed. Acting on the advice of Necker, he requested the nobility and upper clergy to join the Third Estate. They did so, and, when the hall was again opened, there were seen for the first time in France, lords, bishops and commoners meeting on the same political footing. The queen was much displeased and on her suggestion a large body of troops was gathered in Versailles to overawe the Assembly. She secured the dismissal of Necker, who was glad enough to leave the country, and it was fortunate for him that he did so.

There were members of the Assembly who afterward made names for themselves in history. One of them was Lafayette, who had been the friend of Washington, by whose side he fought in our Revolution. Another was the eloquent Mirabeau (mee-rah-boh'), whose impassioned appeals roused his listeners to frenzy (he died, however, soon afterward), and another was Robespierre (robes-pe-ar')

of whom I shall have something more to tell you later on.

The king was frightened by the ominous incidents

and especially by the bold utterances of the Assembly.

Among the troops collected at Versailles were a good many Germans and Swiss, who were intensely hated by the people, because they did not think the king had the right to bring them into the country. The Frenchmen procured arms and organized a body of militia which they called the National Guard and which was placed under the command of Lafayette.

The king, queen and all the members of the royal family were at Versailles whither the troops were sum-



Lafayette.

moned. There a new council was formed composed of supporters of the royal cause. Over their wine they pledged themselves to stand by the monarchs to the death, and if drunken enthusiasm could have won a cause theirs was already won.

When news of this reached the popular party, they were thrown into irrestrainable rage. The French people are the most impulsive in the world, ready to glorify a man one day, and rend him to pieces the next. A young man named Camille Desmoulins (cah-mee da-moo-leng),

leaped upon a bench under the trees of the gardens of the Palais Royal and poured forth a torrent of denunciation of the royal family and of appeal to the passions of his excited listeners. Reaching up to a branch over his head, he snatched off a sprig of green and stuck it in his hat as an emblem of liberty, for green is the chief color of nature. The trees were almost torn to fragments by the

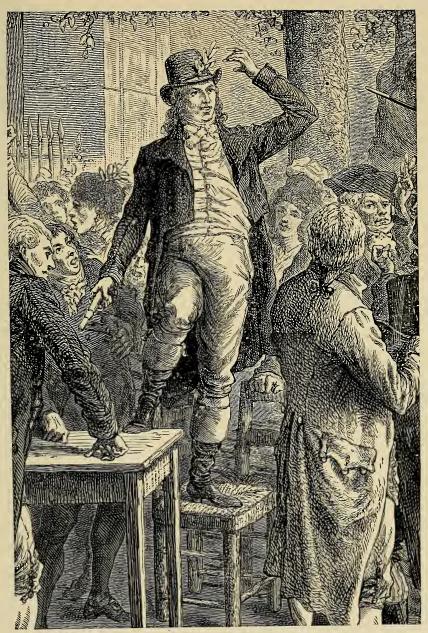
mob that they might deck their hats and caps.

The most famous prison in all France was the Bastile, the building of which was begun in 1369 by Charles V. and enlarged by his successors. Within its gloomy walls thousands of prisoners, many of whom were princes, nobles, and members of leading families, had pined in captivity until released by death. On its site to-day stands the "Column of July," erected in memory of the patriots of 1789 and 1830. A rumor having spread through Paris that the commander of the fortress and prison had received orders to fire on the people, they were thrown into ungovernable fury. Thousands shouted "Down with the Bastile! To the Bastile!" and they rushed thither at headlong speed, men, women and children, all made frantic by their flaming passion.

The Bastile was defended by a feeble garrison, which, after a few hours' resistance, surrendered under the pledge that their lives should be spared. The mob mas-

sacred every man of them.

It was thought that the building was crowded with prisoners, but only seven were brought blinking into the sunlight. One of these had spent more than thirty years in the dungeon, and was an imbecile, who stared around



Camille Desmoulins in the Garden of the Palais Royal.
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in helpless bewilderment, and could form no idea of what his wild rescue meant.

The rage against the Bastile found expression some hours later in an attack upon the massive walls, and it continued throughout the darkness, and never stopped until the structure was razed to its foundations. This was on the night of July 14, 1789.

When the news was carried to the king at Versailles, he roused from sleep, rubbed his goggle eyes and said, "Why, this is a revolt." "No, sire," replied his inform-

ant, "it is a revolution."

The destruction of the Bastile was the spark that kindled the flames which quickly spread to the provinces. The peasantry who had so long groveled in the depths of poverty, and meekly bowed their heads to cuffs and blows, sprang upright to their feet, a wild thirst in their blood which could be satisfied only by blood itself. Catching up whatever would serve them as weapons, they assailed the monasteries and castles, and with a savage delirium vented their pent up hate on those that had oppressed them. As they had received no mercy they showed none; they burned, murdered and sometimes tortured wherever they could find a victim.

The nobility were terrified. At a meeting of the Constituent Assembly held on August 4, they offered to give up their feudal claims and privileges, but when this proposal was eagerly accepted, the nobility had no better sense than to demand that they should receive full pay for all they surrendered. Their magnificent "bluff"

therefore came to naught.

While the Assembly was engaged in preparing a Constitution, matters were fast approaching a crisis in Paris. Poor crops had made the people hungry, and, as is always

the case, thousands of desperate tramps and characters flocked into the city, where they scented plunder and pillage. To add to the excitement, the king continued to play the fool. The gaunt, starving mobs in Paris learned that he had given a banquet to some officers, at which the colors of the National Guard had been trampled on.

Hardly had the news reached the city, when a rabble, in which were several thousand ragged, desperate women



Louis XVI.

—for the women were foremost among the most bloodthirsty from the beginning to the end—started on foot for Versailles, fourteen miles distant. A drenching rain did not add to their appearance nor improve their tigerish tempers. Nothing of account was done that day, and Lafayette followed rapidly with a strong force of the National Guard, for he knew trouble was ahead.

The next morning the mob killed the Swiss guards, swept everything before them and burst into the palace. They yelled for the life of the queen, or the "Austrian"

as they called her, and when she showed herself, she would have been rended to pieces but for Lafayette, who succeeded in saving her life. But she, the king, the dauphin and the rest of the family were compelled to go back to Paris with the rabble. In advance, were sent fifty cartloads of grain taken from the royal stores. The exulting multitude shouted as they trotted alongside the royal carriage and gibed the trembling occupants.

"We shall feast now, for we've got the baker, the baker's wife and the baker's little boy!" This wretched, dismal, pitiful journey of the royal family from Versailles to Paris took place on October 6, 1789, and the

people called it the "Joyous Entry."

As might be expected, the nobility began running out of France while they had time to save themselves. They clustered on the German frontier, boasted of what they would do, and did nothing except to add to the rage of the revolutionists by threats to bring foreign aid to suppress them. The Constituent Assembly left Versailles and established themselves in Paris.

France being threatened with foreign interference, had to equip armies of defense. To do this and avoid taxation, the crown lands were confiscated and then the possessions of the clergy, despite their remonstrances, were seized. This inconceivable wealth it is said comprised more than one-third of all the land in France, and was worth \$400,000,000. Then the monasteries and nunneries were suppressed, and the election of the bishops and appointments placed in the hands of the people. On the basis of these possessions, which could

not be converted at once into cash, the Assembly began issuing money and kept the presses going until the bills sent forth called for more than \$8,000,000,000. As a



The "Joyous Entry."

consequence the value of the paper money went down until it was worth absolutely nothing at all.

On the first anniversary of the taking of the Bastile (July 14, 1790) the Constitution was formally ratified by the people. The Altar of the Country was raised in the Field of Mars, in Paris, and a hundred thousand repre-

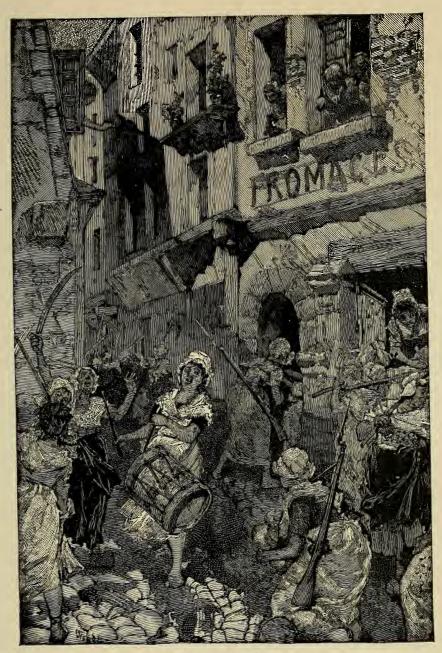
sentatives from all over France gathered to swear allegiance to the new government. There Louis XVI. took the oath to maintain the liberties of the people under the new Constitution. The queen, too, was present and held up the dauphin in her arms, to signify that he joined in the pledge. Just then the rain ceased falling, and the sun broke through the clouds and shone upon the royal family, as they stood beside the altar with uplifted hands. The vast multitude broke into shouts of joy and accepted it as an omen of the good times coming, but never again was the sun to shine with promise on the heads of the king and queen and never again were the populace to break into cheers at sight of them.

## CHAPTER XV.

HOUSE OF BOURBON (Concluded).—1589–1792.

Louis XVI. (1774–1792.—(Concluded).

THE more the revolutionists got the more they demanded. Having seized the Church lands and placed the control of the clergy in the hands of the people, they now ordered the former to take an oath of allegiance to the Constitution. This was a bitter pill to swallow, for it was a declaration that everything that had been done by the Assembly was right and lawful. The Pope issued a warning that all of the French clergy who took the oath would be ex-communicated. The king



The Bread Riots.

The Women on the Road to Versailles.

vetoed the measure, but was scared into upholding it, and in the end, about half the clergy did likewise. In the spring of 1791, Mirabeau died, which was a bad thing for France, for, though he was a revolutionist, he was wise and moderate, and could have done more than any other

person to restrain the savage instincts of the mob.

It was not long before the king and queen were brought to see what had been plain to their friends for a long time: the only way of saving their lives was to flee the country. The populace would not trust the king. He had sworn to support the Constitution and had appeared before the Assembly. He had done things ordered by that body, but nothing was clearer than that he hated every man in it, and would be rejoiced to cut off his head. There was no longer any doubt that some of the foreign Powers were preparing to interfere and forcibly replace him on the throne, with all his absolute privileges intact. Then woe betide these common people who had dared to raise their hands against the "divine right!"

The muttering thunder, the rumbling earthquake, warned the king, as I have said, that his only hope lay in flight. Not until beyond the borders of the country given over to madness, could he and his draw their breath in safety. Already thousands were clamoring for their lives, and thousands more were joining in the shrieks

every day and night and hour.

The night of June 20 was fixed upon for the flight of the royal family. The Count of Provence, eldest brother of the king, slipped forth in disguise late in the evening, and, accompanied by a Gascon gentleman, drove out of the city in a common cabriolet, which attracted no attention, and the count reached Brussels without any difficulty whatever.

A carriage had been specially arranged for the royal family large enough to carry six persons. Since it was liable to be noticed, the friends who had charge of the delicate business, advised that the party should separate and make their flight in two ordinary vehicles. Prudence commended this plan, but the queen refused. She had made as elaborate preparations as if those were the days of peace and splendor, and she was on her way to make



Mirabeau.

a state call upon a sister queen. These preparations required days and weeks to complete, and there is no doubt that some of the hairdressers and waiting maids betrayed the secret.

At eleven o'clock at night the royal children were awakened and dressed, the Dauphin as a girl and his Majesty as a valet, who answered to the name of Durand. There were delay and bother in starting, precious hours were frittered away, and daylight was at hand when the royal party, having at last got together, clattered away

from the gates of Paris. The heavy vehicle lumbered along, with its outriders, and cumbered with enough baggage to make a load for a double team of horses.



Louis XVII. (The Dauphin.)

When it grew light in the east, the party were at Bondy, seven and a half miles away. Relays were ready, the change was made, and again the party were off, all in high spirits, which became higher with each mile placed behind them. The king was so free from fear that he was foolish enough to spend an hour at the wayside on one of his prodigious meals, during which it may be believed he chuckled as he thought of the chagrin of those whom he had left in Paris, and over the greater chagrin that

would come to them, with the resistless armies of his

foreign friends bringing him back to his own.

Naturally as the distance increased, the king grew bolder and more confident. When the carriage stopped to change horses, he poked his head out of the window and stared around. At the bottom of some of the hills, he swung himself out and waddled, panting to the top. Sometimes the children frolicked at his side and no one can picture the scene without the deepest sympathy for the family.



The Royal Family under Arrest at Varennes.

"The royal captives were eight days returning, every village looking on at the sorry sight; and the procession threaded the streets of Paris amidst a multitude and with covered heads."

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Everything was bungled. The carriage was several hours late, the king and queen had been recognized, and the ringing of bells roused the people in advance. When, late at night the party arrived at Varennes (va-ren'), near Verdun, the friends of the king had blundered worse than ever and no relay was ready. The royal family was recognized; bribes and threats were powerless, and the royal carriage was turned back and escorted to Paris, deep despair in the hearts of all the occupants. The vehicle was driven slowly through the streets amid profound silence. Prominent placards contained the warning: "Whoever applauds the king shall be flogged; whoever insults him shall be hanged."

The constituent Assembly having completed its work, dissolved the next day, and October 1, a new body calling itself the Legislative Assembly came together. The members were composed of three classes: the Constitutionalists or Conservatives, who were in favor of a limited monarchy; the Girondists (zhee-ron'dists) thus named because their founders came from the department of Gironde, who favored the establishment of a republic; and the Jacobins. The last were the violent Revolutionists, who clamored for the overturning of all things and the killing of everyone that had been identified with the former oppressive government. Their leaders were the terrible Robespierre, Danton and Marat (mar-ah').

The new Assembly ordered that the members of the clergy who refused to take the required oath should be forbidden to hold public services and should receive no pay, and all the nobles who took up arms against the

government were condemned as traitors.

Austria, Prussia and Spain were preparing to send armies into France to replace Louis on the throne, and to restore the confiscated property to the Church. The lead-

ing nation in this coalition was Austria, whose Emperor was a nephew of Maria Antoinette. No choice being left to Louis, he was compelled with a sinking heart to declare war against Austria, April 20,1792.

There was no confidence between the soldiers and their leaders and the first movement resulted in defeat for the French. The news threw Paris into consternation for the time, and then into a rage which hastened the appalling events that were soon to follow. The Assembly



Robespierre.

ordered that the refractory priests should be banished, the Swiss body guard of the king disbanded, and a camp of twenty thousand provincial troops established for the defense of Paris. The king consented to the disbandment of his body guard but vetoed the other measures, and when the ministry protested, he dismissed them from office.

Some weeks later a manifesto from the Duke of Brunswick, leader of the allied forces, reached Paris, in which the duke declared that he would hang every man as a

traitor who supported the actions of the Assembly. The Jacobin leaders in the Assembly demanded that the king should be deposed. There was delay and hesitation, and an immense mob rushed to attack the Tuileries (tweel-ree'). Louis and his family fled to the Assembly for protection. The mob assailed the palace, which was bravely defended by the Swiss guards. The king sent orders to the guard to stop firing and to come to the Assembly. Some did not understand the order and only a few started. The whole guard numbered about 800, and every one of them and 1200 nobles and gentlemen of the palace were massacred by the frenzied rioters.

Like famishing wolves, the insurgents were made more furious by the taste of blood. They marched to where the white-faced members of the Assembly were shivering together and demanded that the king should be deposed. The Assembly passed a decree August 10, 1792, temporarily suspending the king from office and calling the National Convention, for which the mob had clamored. The command of the National Guard was taken from Lafayette who saved his life by hasty flight from France. The king and royal family were sent as prisoners to the Temple, the ancient stronghold of the Knights Templars.

The conduct of Louis during his five months of captivity, when he was allowed to have no communication with any one outside, was so calm and dignified as to command the respect and even the sympathy of his jailers. It may be said that never before did he conduct

himself so like a king.

A daring plan was formed for his rescue by his friends,



Louis XVI. and the Mob in the Tuileries.

and it might have succeeded but for the witless queen, who could not keep the secret and chattered it to one of the jailers whom she fancied could be won over.

The royal family had been in prison only a few weeks,



Danton.

when news came to Paris that the allied armies had entered France. "What shall be done?" shrieked the mob. Danton, Robespierre and Marat shrieked back: "Strike terror to the hearts of the Royalists! We will kill every political prisoner, man and woman in the city!"

These prisoners were several thousand in number, and their massacre began on September 2, 1792, and did not stop until when at the end of four days, there was none

left to kill.

On the 21st of September, the National Convention met, abolished royalty and declared France a republic. All titles of honor and respect were forbidden; every man was "citizen" and every woman "citizeness."

On the 3d of December the king was ordered to

appear before the Convention. The proceedings and

result may be thus summarized:

1. Is Louis guilty of conspiracy against the public liberty and an attempt against the public safety? The vote was unanimously in the affirmative.



Execution of Louis XVI.

2. Shall he have an appeal to the people? Out of

745 voting, only 276 were in the affirmative.

3. What penalty shall be inflicted? There were 387 votes for death unconditionally; 338 for detention or death conditionally; 28 absent or not voting.

4. Shall his execution be delayed? There were 310

in the affirmative and 380 in the negative.

Then it was ordered that his execution should take

place within twenty-four hours.

On the 21st of January, 1793, Louis XVI., with a calmness, fortitude and resignation for which the world will always honor him, ascended the scaffold. Turning and looking down upon the sea of faces distorted with passion, he attempted to speak, but his voice was drowned by the roll of drums and then came the end.

## CHAPTER XVI.

THE REPUBLIC (1792-1804).—THE CONVENTION (1792-1795).

ROBESPIERRE, Danton, Marat and the furious leaders of the revolution thought they would scare off the interferring nations by their execution of Louis XVI., but the opposite effect was produced. England added her mighty strength to that of Holland, Spain, Austria and Prussia in the war to restore the monarchy, which action was not wholly disinterested on their part, for the uprising of the people ground to the earth for generations was a terrifying menace to all the other governments in Europe.

France displayed tremendous energy. She answered the action of the different Powers with a bold declaration of war, and announced that wherever her armies went, they would proclaim their principles. So the prodigious contest was in one sense a strife between the r ople and organized government everywhere. If France succeeded, there would be such an overturning of thrones and dy-

nasties as the world had never seen.

Despite the valor of the French soldiers, under skillful generals, the allied armies began to gain headway against them. They checked the French advance and drove the troops out of Belgium. Soon after Dumouriez (du-moo-ree-ay'), the ablest French general, disgusted with the atrocities of his followers, turned squarely about, and, failing to take his army with him, went over to the Austrians, ready to do all he could to help restore

the monarchy.

The news caused the wildest panic in Paris, but the appalling peril only roused the revolutionists to desperation. The blame for the disasters was charged against the Girondist policy, and the convention established a committee of Public Safety, composed of nine of the most violent radicals, who adopted a new constitution and assumed absolute control of the government. The convention had 200,000 men under arms and it was voted to raise this force to half a million.

The air throbbed with suspicion. Robespierre, Marat and Danton suspected the Girondists of plotting with the allies, and the Girondists saw devastation, ruin and destruction so long as the men named controlled the government and this horrible state of affairs produced what has

been well named the Reign of Terror.

The Girondists first attacked the radical leaders by charging Marat with being unfaithful to the republic. That monster of hideous face, who hungered for the lives of the innocent as well as the guilty, smirked and grinned, for he knew he had the howling mob behind him. The oily Robespierre, as gentle and low-voiced as a woman, calmly watched proceedings and bided his time, for he knew, too, that the rabble were at his back.

In this contest between the Girondists and Jacobins

the weakness of the former surprised even their opponents. Then the Jacobins took their turn. They wheeled about and fiercely denounced the Girondists and demanded

their arrest. A panting mob broke into the chamber, white and screeching for blood. Thirty-one Girondists were arrested, and then began a reign of crime and murder such as the world never saw and it is to be prayed will never see again.

In the wild tumult ten of the Girondists managed to escape from the hall, and, making their way to the provinces, started a counter revolution. They made good



headway, and the cities of
Lyon and Toulon declared in
their favor. In a white heat of fury the Convention sent an army to Lyon, making sure that a guillotine was among its equipments. The city was powerless, and the dreadful implement of death was set to work, but, though it was kept going with the utmost diligence, the task was too enormous. So the prisoners were massed in the public square and mowed down with grapeshot.

At Nantes, too, the guillotine proved too slow, and men, women and children were chained together on barges and pushed out into the Loire and sunk. In Nantes alone

more than thirty thousand people were put to death. At La Vendee and elsewhere the same wholesale massacres took place.

Marat chuckled like a fiend and rubbed his hands



Marat.

with glee when the awful news came to him. He had had a magnificent meal but he craved more. He spent his spare time in preparing long lists of victims for the guillotine. All he wanted was simply the name of some man or woman against whom another had whispered a suspicion. He did not bother to find out whether the charges were inspired by spite; he craved victims and could not get enough of them.

On the 13th of July, 1793, word was brought to Marat

that a young woman had called from one of the rebellious provinces with a list of traitors which she wished to place in his hands. Although Marat was in his bath, he was so delighted that he hastily flung on a few garments, and gave orders for her to be admitted. She came in, a beautiful and intelligent young woman, and he eagerly asked for the list. He had a stool at the side of his bath, with writing materials and he began taking down the names with ferocious joy as she called them off.



Charlotte Corday Assassinates Marat.

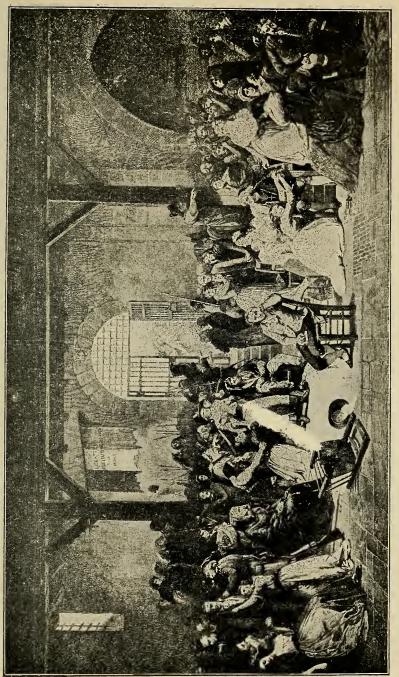
He was thus engaged, chuckling meanwhile over the punishment he would mete out to these traitors, when like a flash of lightning, the young woman sprang forward and buried a knife that she had concealed in her dress, into the bosom of the monster, who was barely able to

gasp, "To me, my friend," when he was dead.

Charlotte Corday, as was her name, remained calm and self possessed amid the wild confusion that immediately followed. When placed on trial, she declared that she was a Republican and had always been one, but she had sought to end anarchy and had taken one life to save a hundred thousand. She was condemned and soon afterwards suffered death by the guillotine. A young man who begged the privilege of dying for her, was also executed on account of the offer, and the crowd hooted

and yelled and danced with delight at the sight.

The death of the leading wretch did not check the Reign of Terror, but added intensity to it. Satan was unloosed. The leaders insisted that only one safe course was open—that was to kill everyone who refused to take sides with them. Thereupon the Convention passed a law, ordering all persons "suspected" of ill-will toward the republic to be imprisoned. In a short time, the prisons and jails were crowded to overflowing. The guillotine was set up in Paris and its hideous clicking was never silent day nor night. Everybody suspected everybody else. No man knew when some enemy would declare him a suspect; the most intimate friends shunned each other and even members of the same family lost mutual faith. Anyone could make the charge and when



Calling the Roll of the Last Victims During the "Reign of Terror."

Any one suspected of being inimical to the Republic might be convicted and sent to the scaffold without the examination of any witnesses. Every day witnessed a massacre; the sufferings of Paris were rivalled by those of the provinces. and the nation was paralyzed with terror. made it meant the guillotine. Often when a man or woman ran to the Committee to accuse some enemy, he or she would find that that enemy had got there a few minutes before and made his own charges. Then the belated one went under the guillotine and perhaps the one who made the first charge was called back to keep the other company on the last journey.

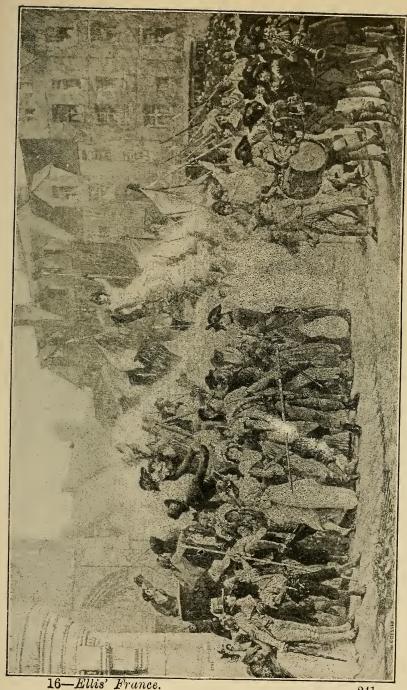
You remember the young man Camille Desmoulins, who harangued the crowd in the Palais Royal and stuck a green twig in his cap as a sign of liberty. Well, somebody made accusation against him, and despite his shrieks of innocence and his shouting of his name, he was hustled

to the guillotine and beheaded.

There was nothing vile, wicked, ferocious, blasphemous and brutal which the revolutionists did not do. They abolished the existing calendar, making the months, beginning with January as follows: Nivose, Pluviose, Ventose, Germinal, Floreal, Prairial, Messidor, Thermidor, Fructidor, Vendemiaire rumaire and Frimaire.

The next thing soushed was the Christian Religion. Sunday was ended and the churches closed. A shameless actress painted and bedizened, with the red cap of the commune on her head, was set up for public adoration upon the altar of Notre Dame. She was called the "Goddess of Reason" and the times became the "Age of Reason."

The wonder is that Maria Antoinette was spared so long. She had been expecting the summons for some time, when she was called before the Tribunal. As she kissed and bade good-bye to her children, she said: "I



The Feast of the Goddess of Reason: Paris, 1793.

During the Age of Reason reckless indecency prevailed. Worship was prohibited; marriage was declared to be only a civil contract to be broken at pleasure; priests denied the faith of which they were living winnesses, and a bishop profaned Christianity by a revolting parody on its mysteries.

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go to meet your father." Imprisonment and grief had told upon her, and as she came forth into the sunlight, she had aged many years within the past few months. When asked to plead in her own behalf, she refused and replied: "I was a queen and you took away my crown; I was a wife and you robbed me of my husband; I was a mother and you robbed me of my children; my blood alone remains; take it and I only pray you that you do not make me suffer long." On the same day that she was sentenced to the guillotine—October 16, 1793—she was executed.

The most violent of the revolutionists were called Hebertists, after their founder, Jacques Rene Hebert, leader of the communists. It was he and his party who set up the "Goddess of Reason" and worshipped her, and who abandoned themselves to the lowest practices of vice. Robespierre attacked Hebert and his friends as worse than the priests whom they had supplanted. Hebert started an insurrection in the Convention, but Robespierre outwitted him and Hebert and his comrades were arrested, tried and guillotined. Danton had become weary of the horrifying slaughter and showed signs of wishing to check it, though it was he who created the Revolutionary Tribunal which caused so much woe and The first sign of weakening on Danton's part was fatal, and he and his friends followed their thousands of victims to the guillotine.

Robespierre was thus left at the head of affairs. His full name was Maximilien Marie Isidore de Robespierre. He had hundreds of spies everywhere, and he showed no



Maria Antoinette Leaving the Tribunal.

Maria Antoinette was drawn to the place of execution, exposed to the insolent gaze of the populace, in a common cart, with her arms bound, in a prison dress, like the vilest criminal; but her calm dignity which had abashed her judges a few hours before did not desert her.

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mercy to man, woman or child against whom a word of suspicion was breathed. Let us sum up the awful narrative by saying that careful estimates of the whole number of deaths during the French Revolution, due to massacre, civil war and the guillotine reach the appalling total of one million!

Finally the Convention turned upon Robespierre. He was accused of seeking his own interests by putting other leaders to death. He was tried and declared guilty, but managed to escape. Had he not been a coward, he might have rallied a strong party of supporters, but his heart failed him. When about to be taken again, he made an attempt at suicide, but the pistol which he used only broke his jaw. On the 28th of July, 1794 (10th Thermidor), as he lay helpless and bleeding, "One and Indivisible" as he was called, no one offered him a drink of water. He was hurried to the scaffold and he too perished by the guillotine.

A reaction now set in and France took time to breathe. The guillotine was allowed to rest and the prisons were opened. Ten thousand were set free in Paris alone. The Convention assumed the powers of the Commune of Paris and the Jacobin Club was closed. The armies of the Republic defeated the English and Dutch early in 1795, and later in the same year, Belgium was declared a part of the French Republic. The committee appointed by the Convention to draw up a new constitution did so in the summer of 1795, and the government was placed in the hands of five directors, from which fact it received the name of the Directory.

Madame Roland, wife of M. Roland, a Girondist leader and Minister of the Interior from March, 1792, to January, 1793, was one of the most extraordinary women of



Robespierre Made an Attempt at Suicide.

her time. Remarkably beautiful and possessed of a brilliant mind, she was scarcely less influential than her husband on the side of constitutional liberty. He saved his life by fleeing from Paris, May 31, 1793, but she was arrested on the same night, without the shadow of reason,

and imprisoned. Released on June 24, she was immediately rearrested and thrown again into prison. She spent the time in study and the composition of her political *Memories*. She was condemned, and on November 9, guillotined, amid the execrations of a crazy mob. A more dauntless spirit never lived. Standing at the foot of the statue of Liberty, where the scaffold was erected, she apostrophized it, "O Liberty what crimes are committed in thy name!"

## CHAPTER XVII.

THE REPUBLIC (continued) 1792–1804.—
THE DIRECTORY (1795–1799).

THE creation of the forms of government in France known as the Convention and the Directory brought forward the most wonderful military genius of modern times, and the history of the country for more than twenty years following the dethronement and execution of Louis XVI. is mainly the history of the doings and achievements of Napoleon Bonaparte.

The founder of this remarkable house was Carlo Buonaparte (as the name was originally), a lawyer of honorable descent, born at Ajaccio (ah-yaht'-cho) in the island of Corsica, in 1746. His sons were Joseph, Napoleon, Lucien, Louis Napoleon and Jerome. Louis was the father of

Charles Louis Napoleon, who became the head of the government of France in 1852.

Napoleon Bonaparte was born at Ajaccio on August 15, 1769. He showed so marked a taste for military life that at the age of eleven he was sent to the military school at

Brienne (bree-en) in Champagne, and in 1784, to the military school in Paris. A year later he was nominated as sub-lieutenant of artillery, and detailed on duty in his native country. He was driven out of the island in 1792 by the ally of the English, and withdrew to Marseilles, where he lived in poverty with his mother and sisters. He was made a captain in 1793, and was employed to put down the rising in Marseilles, which he accomplished. Before the close of the year he



Napoleon Bonaparte.

was made lieutenant-colonel and sent to join the army be-

sieging Toulon (too-lon').

It was there Bonaparte gave the first evidence of the military genius that was to rouse the admiration of the world. The army was only a mob and the artillery department without any organization whatever. He insisted upon a rigid and thorough reorganization, and upon a number of reforms, which after much urging on his part were adopted. Then he proposed to attack the outer works. These were carried, and, as he had foreseen,

the allies were compelled to surrender the town and harbor.

His decisive success caused him to be appointed brigadier-general of artillery, with the chief artillery command in the south of France; but jealousy was at work, and, being under suspicion, his name was erased from the active list. Five months of idleness followed, during which he was so poor that he was almost in rags and without enough money to buy more than sufficient to keep from starving. His ambition burned within him with as fierce a flame as ever, and he was dreaming of offering his services to the Grand Seignior, with the hope of a dazzling career of conquest in Asia, when the Directory, although still suspicious of him, was reduced to such extremities that the government made use of his services.

The reaction against the Reign of Terror led the royalists to hope for their restoration to power. The little Dauphin, son of Louis XVI., had died of ill treatment, but the brother of the late King was living in Russia, where he had taken refuge, and the royalists wished to place him on the throne with the title of Louis XVIII., for the Dauphin had been recognized as Louis XVIII., King of France, by England and Russia, after the execution of his father.

In the wrangle for power, the National Guard was persuaded to join the monarchical cause, and, in October, 1795, the combined forces, numbering 40,000 men, marched on the Tuileries to drive out the Convention and prevent the formation of the Directory. In their peril,

the Convention appealed to General Barras (bar-rah') to defend them, and he asked young Bonaparte to act as his lieutenant. With his usual vigor, Bonaparte quickly

turned the palace into an intrenched camp. He had barely 6000 troops, but he planted his batteries with perfect skill in all the streets around the Assembly, and when the National Guard appeared, he played so terrifically upon their dense ranks with grape shot, that after several hours' fighting, they broke and fled in all directions. That night Bonaparte surrounded the different detachments in their retreats, attacked, captured, disarmed and sent them to their homes.



Barras.

These services were too brilliant to be overlooked, and all saw that this young artillery officer was the man for the hour. He was appointed second in command of the army of the interior and soon afterward by the retirement of Barras, was made General of the Interior.

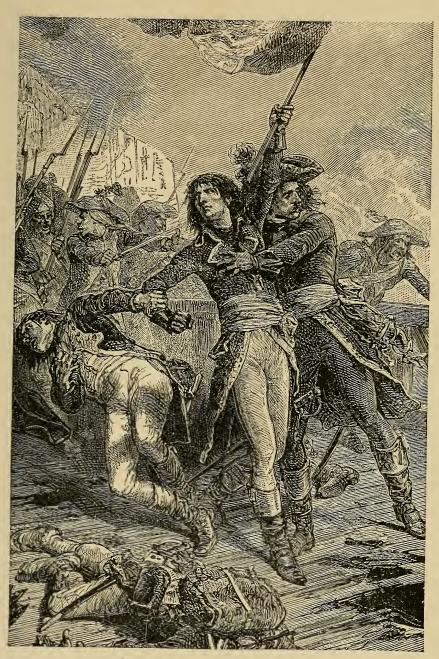
Meanwhile, Austria, Germany and England were pushing their war against France, and it was necessary for the Directory to move against them. It was decided to attack the enemy at three different points. The battles on the Rhine were to be fought by General Moreau (moh-roh') and Jourdan, while Napoleon was to advance against the Austrians and Sardinians in Northern Italy. Vienna, the capital of Austria, was the objective point of all three armies.

It looked as if no man was ever given a more hopeless task than Napoleon. The Directory was so poor that it could place only a sum less than twenty thousand dollars in his hands for the expense of the campaign. The army itself, numbering barely 40,000, was in a miserable condition, and for three years had accomplished nothing. It was now huddled at the base of the Alps, between Savoy and the sea, whither it had been driven by the allies, whose forces numbered 60,000 veterans.

"Famine, cold and misery," said Napoleon in his first proclamation, "are the school of good soldiers. Here on the plains of Italy you will conquer our enemies and then you will find comfort, riches and glory. Soldiers of the Army of Italy, you will not lack courage for the

enterprise."

There was a resistless magnetism about Napoleon. His men caught his dauntless spirit, and clamored to be led forward by their marvelous leader. Rushing like a torrent down the Alps, the "Little Corporal," as his admiring soldiers called him, routed first the Austrians and then the Sardinians. Two weeks later, he made peace on his own terms with the Sardinians. The Austrians rallied at the bridge of Lodi in order to protect Milan, the capital of Lombardy. There they were attacked and in a furious battle routed, and Napoleon entered Milan in triumph. No general had ever moved so swiftly, nor



Napoleon at the Bridge of Lodi.

struck so hard and unexpectedly. When he was believed to be miles distant, he fell upon the enemy like a cyclone.

Napoleon now besiged Mantua and the enemy gathered a third army of 60,000 men to attack him at Verona. He passed out of the town by the western gate, crossed the river Adige (ad'e-je), fourteen miles below, attacked the Austrians at the village of Arcola, in the middle of extensive marshes, where the town could be reached only by causeways and a wooden bridge. The fighting lasted three days, and ended in the retreat of the Austrians. Two months later, the decisive struggle took place on the plains of Rivoli and again Napoleon was victorious. Having conquered Italy, he started for Vienna, but the frightened Emperor opened negotiations for peace. The treaty of Campo Formio ended the war. The prodigious work of Napoleon included in the brief space of two months, eighteen battles fought and won, three Austrian armies destroyed and 145,000 prisoners captured. Besides, he had levied \$9,000.000 tribute on the Pope and other Italian rulers who opposed the Directory, and established the Cisalpine republic of Northern Italy, in which were included Lombardy, Parma, Modena and a portion of the Papal dominions. Greater than all these, was the whole of the Austrian Netherlands or Belgium which was ceded to France as the prize of the war.

It has been said that Napoleon began his campaigns with only a beggarly sum of money. Through his victories, he was enabled to clothe and feed his army, to send \$2,000,000 to the Directory, and a large sum to the help of the French army in Germany. His amazing success

inflamed his ambition. He robbed the Vatican at Rome and the churches, libraries and picture galleries of their

choicest treasures, and sent enormous quantities of the

plunder to France.

Returning to Paris, he spent several months with his newly married wife Josephine, during which he planned an expedition to Egypt. His dream was to establish an eastern empire, overthrow England's supremacy in that country, and obtain control of the Mediterranean. The Directory were uneasy over the popularity of the new hero, and quickly accepted his proposal; for they would be rid of him, for a time at least, and hardly a member of the



Josephine.

government believed that success was possible for his

vast and far-reaching enterprise.

He left France in the spring of 1798, with a squadron carrying 36,000 veterans, most of whom had fought under him and were eager to go anywhere at his command. The first step necessary was to get possession of the strongly fortified island of Malta, nominally in the possession of the Knights of St. John, but really an outpost of England. The guards were bribed and it was

taken without firing a gun. Napoleon landed at Alexandria in July, and captured the city by storm. Within less than a month, his camp was under the shadow of



The British at Aboukir Bay.

the Pyramids. Pointing to those great monuments of the Pharaohs, he said: "Soldiers, from the summits of those pyramids, forty centuries look down upon you."

The Mamelukes were the bravest and best disciplined troops in Egypt, but they charged the solid French



Napoleon Bonaparte in Egypt: Virtual Master of the Oldest Dynasty in the World.

The cavalry of the Mannelukes was among the best in the world, but, unprovided with guns, the horsemen of the desert could do nothing more than hurl one fiery charge after another against the solid masses of the French troops in vain attempts to shatter their ranks.

squares again and again, with no more effect than of dashing against a mountain wall. Cairo  $(k\bar{\imath}-ro)$  and Lower Egypt fell into the possession of the invaders,



Kleber.

who thus became virtual masters of the most ancient dy-

nasty in the world.

But while the French were celebrating their triumph, news of disaster reached them. That grand naval hero, Nelson, had overtaken Napoleon's fleet in Aboukir Bay, off Alexandria, and destroyed every vessel but two. It was a serious blow, for it was the first reverse that had come to the man who seemed to be invincible, and it heartened England and her allies.

The disaster spurred Napoleon to greater exertions. With the purpose of adding Syria to his conquests, he crossed the desert separating Asia from Africa, stormed Jaffa and laid siege to Acre, which was stubbornly defended by the Turks and their English allies. The task which Napoleon had given his men was beyond their power, for they were worn out by their exhausting marches, the frightful heat, and by hunger and pestilence. At the end of fifty-seven days, he retreated to Egypt, after having with 2,000 men defeated with great slaughter, a force of 20,000 Ottomans at Mount Tabor.

All this time, as may be said, Napoleon kept his eye on France, thousands of miles away. His friends there kept him apprised of the situation, though it took a good

while for news to travel back and forth. With that genius which enabled him at times to pierce the immediate future with unerring vision, he saw that the weakness of the Directory offered him his golden opportunity. He needed no one to tell him the real reason why the government had been so willing to send him off to Egypt, with his devoted soldiers, and he was not deceived for a moment. With exultation, he heard that the people were wearied of the rule of the Directory, that they had lost all confidence in it, and



Lucien Bonaparte.

were longing for almost any change.

He determined to hurry to France, not with his army but secretly. A ship was hastily prepared, and at night he went aboard with a few of his devoted followers. He intrusted the army to his second in command, General Kleber (kla-bare'), and sailed. On the voyage he narrowly escaped capture by the English cruisers, but landed in France to the astonishment of every one. He was received with unbounded enthusiasm, for the Direc-

tory had been growing more unpopular day by day. poleon found that while he was away a new war had been begun; Switzerland had been forced to adopt a new government modeled on that of the French Republic; the Vatican at Rome had been plundered anew of its treasures, and, to crown all, the Pope had been carried as a prisoner

to France, where he lived but a short time.

With every condition so inviting, Napoleon was not the one to hesitate. He became the head of a powerful party, and, aided by his brother Lucien and several of his generals, he overthrew the Directory on the famous 18th Brumaire, year 8 of the Republic. (November 9, 1799.) A new Constitution was adopted, under which the government was placed in the hands of three consuls, Napoleon being the first. They were chosen for a term of ten years, but it is hardly worth while to name the other two since they were simply the tools of the first consul, who, although the country was still called a Republic, was as supreme as the Czar of Russia.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

THE REPUBLIC AND THE EMPIRE—1792-1815.

The Consulate and the Empire—(1799-1815).

NAPOLEON Bonaparte had reached the position he craved: he was at the head of the French nation and before him opened a career of conquest, whose dazzling grandeur was to overshadow the world and raise him to a summit of glory that, to quote the extravagant words of a writer, threatened to disturb the

equilibrium of the universe.

That wonderful man was great in everything to which he turned his hand. With an iron sternness he ended the anarchy that had brought the nation to the edge of ruin. Political discussion was stopped. "There are no Jacobins," he said; "no Royalists; nobody but Frenchmen." The opposing newspapers were suppressed, and the others warned to be careful. He removed the restrictions to trade, established the Bank of France and wiped out the savage laws against the return of French noblemen. He created a new nobility, based on merit instead of birth or wealth, and instituted the Legion of Honor as a reward for meritorious services; the educational systems were vastly improved; industry and mechanical invention were encouraged; the modern University of France was

established; a great system of roads, canals, arsenals, harbors and various public works was begun; he completed the Pantheon and the palace of the Louvre (louvr). He began building the Church of the Madeleine and provided Paris with the Arc de Triomphe, the most magnificent structure of its kind in the world; he made a solemn treaty with the Pope in 1801, by which a modified form of Catholicism was re-established as the religion of France, and, more remarkable than all these, he caused the compilation of the Code Napoleon, by which the enormous mass of edicts, ancient laws and acts were sifted, condensed and made uniform throughout the country. In this vast work, the peerless brain of Napoleon was the guide and directing genius. The Code Napoleon was a gigantic and masterly work, upon which have been founded the laws of France, Western Germany, Belgium, Holland, Italy, Switzerland and the code of the State of Louisiana in our own country.

One of Napoleon's first acts was to ask the King of England and the Emperor of Germany to agree to a treaty of peace, which as he said was "the first necessity and the first glory" for all the European nations; but while making this Christian proposal, the wily and ambitious Consul imposed conditions which no one knew better than he would not be accepted by either of the rulers, for he insisted that he should be allowed to hold Egypt and

Malta, and also to control Italy.

And so the year 1800 opened with preparations for war by those who would not bow to his despotic will. In Italy, the Austrians outnumbered the French four to one. At first the French were defeated. Then Napoleon placed himself at the head of the army. His first achievement was one that his friends declared and his enemies believed impossible. With 35,000 men he crossed the Alps in six days, and rushed down like one of their awful avalanches upon the plains of Italy. At Marengo, June 14, 1800, was fought a tremendous battle, which was closed by the surrender of the Austrian general, and northwestern Italy once more fell into the hands of the French.

Meanwhile, Moreau had entered Germany with an army of 100,000 men. The village of Hohenlinden stands in a pine forest, on the river Iser. There, in the month of December, 1800, the two armies met in one of the most terrific of battles. A tremendous snow storm was raging, so that the contending troops could locate each other only by the flashes of their guns. Nearly every boy and girl has read, and perhaps some of them have recited, the poem descriptive of this battle, which opens thus:

"On Linden, when the sun was low,
All bloodless lay the untrodden snow,
And dark as winter was the flow
Of Iser rolling rapidly."

The last stanza is:

"Few, few shall part where many meet!
The snow shall be their winding sheet;
And every turf beneath their feet
Shall be a soldier's sepulchre."

Moreau was so overwhelmingly victorious that the German Emperor begged for peace in order to save his capital. By the treaty of Luneville (lu-nay-veel) made soon after, all that had been granted by the treaty of Campo Formio was confirmed. The left bank of the Rhine and the Austrian Netherlands were to be held by France, while the republics of northwestern Italy were

recognized as her dependencies.

But while Napoleon was invincible on land, he was vanquished on the water. England captured Malta, and Nelson broke up the league against Great Britain, which had been formed when the latter tried to stop all trade with France. Then the French were driven out of Egypt and Napoleon began forming his plans for invading England. But the exhaustion of war caused both nations to welcome a temporary peace, which was signed at Amiens (ah-mee-an') in 1802, and which secured to France all the territory between the Pyrenees and the Rhine.

In the following summer, Napoleon was chosen First Consul for life, with the right of naming his successor. A wise step on his part was to sell the immense Territory of Louisiana to the United States, for it was an element of weakness to France. Its sale brought her a large sum of money (\$15,000,000, as you remember) and strength-

ened the United States at the expense of England.

As everybody must have expected, the peace of Amiens did not last long. England seized a number of French vessels, and Napoleon imprisoned several thousand Englishmen within his dominions. This started the great war which lasted for ten years. That France



Napoleon I. in Imperial Robes.

As the hymn Charlemagne heard, when saluted Emperor of the West, rang through the aisles of Notre Dame at the coronation of Napoleon I., all Paris joined in the acclamations.

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worshipped her idol was proven on May 18, 1804, when by a vote that was almost unanimous the inhabitants elected him Emperor. The Pope made a special journey to Paris at the close of the year to give the sanction of the Church to the people's wishes, and the potentate anointed the new sovereign "Emperor of the French" in the venerable cathedral of Notre Dame. Then Napoleon did a strange thing, which perhaps after all was not strange: he crowned himself and placed a golden laurel wreath on the head of Josephine. In the following spring, he crossed the Alps, and, setting the iron crown of Lombardy on his head, received the title of King of Italy.

Europe was alarmed by the boundless ambition of Napoleon. England, Russia and Austria formed an alliance against him, and he began his preparation for the invasion of England, which he declared was a "nation of shopkeepers." These preparations were on a colossal scale and all France ardently favored the tremendous

project.

But Admiral Nelson was on the watch, and when the combined French and Spanish fleets appeared off Cape Trafalgar (tra-fal'gar), October 21, 1805, on the southern coast of Spain, he attacked them with such bravery and skill that both were virtually destroyed. The French admiral was so humiliated that he committed suicide. The illustrious Nelson lost his life in this battle, but gained for his country the mastery of the ocean and ended all fear of a French invasion.

Previous to this, Napoleon unexpectedly led his army

against Austria which was planning with Russia to surprise the French emperor. But to the amazement of the Austrians, Napoleon suddenly appeared before the city of

Ulm, where he speedily compelled the Austrian general to surrender, and then advanced against Vienna, which fell like ripe fruit into his hands.

On the 2d of December, 1805, he encountered the combined armies of Russia and Germany at Austerlitz, in Austria. The allies greatly outnumbered the French and held a powerful position; but Napoleon, by a series of masterly maneuvres, quick, strategic movements and brilliant operations won one of the most signal triumphs of his career. The victory was so



Francis II.

decisive that when peace was asked for, he dictated his own terms. Austria gave up all claim to Italy and her "sphere of influence" in Switzerland. He compelled Francis II. to surrender his imperial crown and to be satisfied with the title of Emperor of Austria. The numerous states of which the empire had been composed were recast with Napoleon as protector and real master.

Then playing with kings and dynasties as if they were so many footballs, the French emperor seized the kingdom of Naples and gave the crown to his elder brother Joseph who had no ability at all as a military leader and very little as a civil ruler. Next the republic of the Netherlands was



Louis Bonaparte.

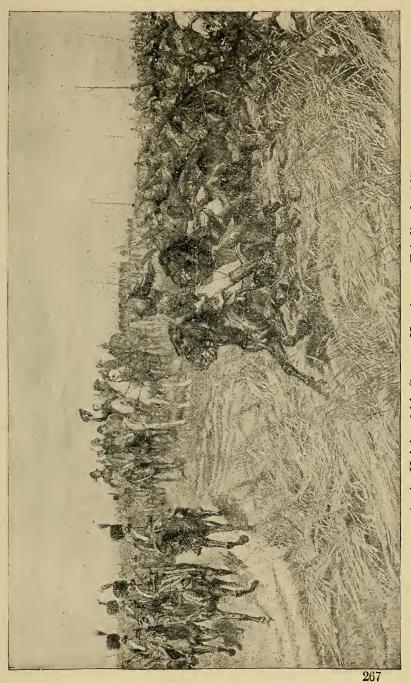
turned into a monarchy and presented to his brother Louis, with the title of King of Holland. Finally Italy was chopped up into nineteen dukedoms and divided among his friends. You will notice that the grand scheme of Napoleon, was to make France the one overshadowing Power, surrounded by dependencies and with him as the supreme head and master of them all.

The panic of the northern nations caused another coalition against the one man who threatened to trample upon them all. Into this mighty

alliance, entered England, Russia, Sweden, Saxony and Prussia, and you would think such an array must sweep

everything before it.

War was renewed in 1806. In one day, Napoleon fought the great battles of Jena (vay'nah) and Auerstadt (ow-er-stet'), humbling the Prussian monarchy into the dust. Then entering Berlin, he issued the Berlin Decree, November 21, 1806, which forbade all trade or intercourse



At the Height of his Career: Napoleon at Friedland, 1807.

The Russians stood their ground from ten in the morning to nearly five in the evening, sustaining numberless charges of foot and horse, until Napoleon at the head of the French line led a general assault, which was irresistible, and forced them to retreat to the frontier.

with England. This decree was followed in 1807 by an-

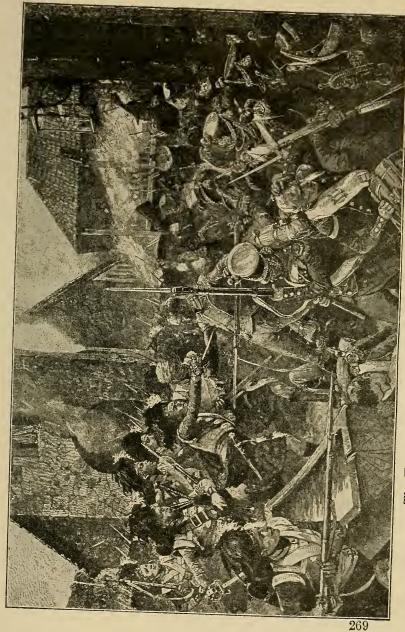
other still more stringent.

What was left of the Prussian forces joined the Russians, and a battle was fought at Eylau (i'lou), without decisive result, but a few months afterward, the French won the victory of Friedland (freet'lant), and Prussia, by giving up a large portion of her territory, secured the peace of Tilsit in July, 1807. A part of the territory named was formed into the kingdom of Westphalia, over which Napoleon's brother Jerome was made

king.

In order to complete his majestic circle of conquest, Napoleon now set out to subjugate Spain and Portugal. When the French army reached Lisbon, it inspired such terror, that the city surrendered without resistance, and the king was sent into exile. Next Napoleon compelled the King of Spain to abdicate, and placed his brother Joseph, King of Naples, on the throne. Joseph, as I have said, was a weak man, and when the angry Spaniards rose against him, he gathered enough wealth together to support a monarch for a lifetime and withdrew from Madrid. All of Spain was surrendered, except a part bordering on the Pyrenees.

All this time, England was busy. She sent an army into Spain to expel the French. It was under the command of Sir Arthur Wellesley, more generally known as the Duke of Wellington. The Peninsular War, as it was called, began in 1808, and after several years, was successful. Russia threatened Napoleon so seriously that he had to withdraw his main forces, after which Wellesley



The Forty-second Highlanders Drive the French out of Elvina.

towards the Pyrenees, chased from post to post by the enemy, losing more lives in the incessant struggle The French abandoned their line of defences on the Douro, and, after their total defeat at Vittoria, retreated with regular and guerrilla forces than in any similar time in a regular campaign. completed the work of driving out the last French army

from Spain.

His vast success and mad ambition caused Napoleon to commit more than one grave blunder. The Pope wished to remain neutral, but the emperor insisted that he was only a temporal sovereign, and was bound to aid him in crippling English commerce. Since the Pope could not be swerved from his position, the emperor sent a force into Rome and annexed it to France. The Pope excommunicated him, and Napoleon carried the Pope off as prisoner, and held him as long as his power remained. The foolishness of this act was that it gave no strength to the French emperor, and made the Catholic clergy of France and of all Europe his enemies.

Napoleon could not live without war. He picked a quarrel with Austria and compelled Russia to be his ally for the time, but England did her utmost to baffle the "King of Kings." The Austrians gained some successes, but at Wagram on July 6, 1809, their army was routed "horse, foot and dragoons," and in the peace that followed,

France gained still more territory.

Bonaparte was now at the zenith of his glory. For centuries the world had not seen so resistless a conqueror. The boundaries of France reached to the Baltic on the north and beyond Rome on the south. His brother Louis was King of Holland; Jerome of Westphalia; he expected to replace Joseph on the throne of Spain; and when Lucien, who was not quite as docile as the imperious brother demanded, should become tractable, a throne was waiting for him. One sister was queen of Naples, being the wife

of Murat, and the other two were princesses. The Pope was the emperor's prisoner, and it seemed impossible to gather any army in Europe that could hold its own

against his marvelous genius.

Napoleon would brook no resistance to his will by members of his own family. He would not permit them to marry, unless he chose their partners. Since he had no children, he divorced Josephine, and, in 1810, compelled the conquered Emperor of Austria to give him his daughter Princess Maria Louisa in marriage. A son was born to them known as Napoleon II., and was called the "King of Rome." developed consumption and died at the age of twenty-one.



General Murat. (King of Naples.)

The putting away of his wife Josephine, marked the beginning of Napoleon's downfall. Resentful against Russia because the czar refused to close his ports to English trade, the Emperor determined to humble her and thus cripple an ally of England.

Now pause a moment to reflect upon a matter to which I have already asked your attention—that is the incomprehensible folly of sensible men allowing the ambition of one human being to cause hundreds of thou-

sands of deaths, anguish in multitudes of homes, devastation amounting to untold millions of dollars, and



Caroline Bonaparte. (Queen of Naples.)

sufferings beyond the power of any mind to picture. Napoleon wanted Russia to inflict misery upon England by refusing to trade with her; Russia refused; therefore, rivers of blood must flow, with the end that the Russian ports were not closed, and all this massacre by wholesale went on without the gain of a single thing, except tears, broken hearts, and deaths by the hundreds of thousands. What a service would have been rendered humanity if Napoleon Bonaparte had been shot at

the beginning of his bloody career or he had died about the time mentioned!

The emperor raised an army of 600,000 men, a host too vast for any mind to comprehend. Suppose you placed this army in platoons, each of which contained ten men, and started them on the march, with just a yard between every two platoons so as to give the men room to walk. The length of that army, including its wagon trains, would be more than fifty miles!

This mighty host crossed the river Niemen (nee'man)



Josephine Swoons on Hearing the Decree of Divorce. 18—Ellis' France. 273

in the summer of 1812, and began its march to Moscow, the ancient capital of Russia. No army could be gathered strong enough to resist the invaders when led by their great commander. The Russians, therefore, fell back burning their villages and fields of grain. The enemy must have food and forage, and they expected to get it from the country as they passed through, but all the fair fields were turned into a smoking waste. The Russians inflicted severe suffering and loss upon themselves, but still greater upon their enemies, and, desperate as it was, it was the only remedy within their reach.

Five hundred miles were passed in this manner, when the Russians made a stand at Borodino (dee-no). After a loss of 45,000 in killed and wounded, and an immense loss on the part of the French, the Russians were defeated and the road to Moscow opened. Ten days later, Napoleon entered the old city and the invaders began pillaging it. Scarcely had they started, when to their dismay, they saw fires burning in a score of places. Moscow was doomed. Napoleon and his men were appalled, for they had reckoned on nothing like this. Nine-tenths of the city was laid in ashes, and then the miserable army began its return in the depth of winter through the snow and ice. No pen can describe, no mind conceive the horrors of that retreat. The Cossack cavalry hovered on the flanks of the freezing army and cut down the men by the hundred, while tens of thousands perished from cold and starvation. At the Beresina (see'na) river, the Russians made a determined stand, killed multitudes and many more met their deaths in the icy waters. Of that magnificent army of more than half a million men who entered Russia with elastic step and in high hope, only a shivering rabble of 20,000 tottered back to France.

Napoleon had previously fled

in disguise to Paris.

All France was in mourning, but such was the power of this one man that he soon raised an army of 350,000 soldiers to fight a new coalition, consisting of England, Russia, Prussia, Austria and Sweden, under whose banners a million muskets were gathered. The decisive conflict took place at Leipsic, in Germany, in the autumn of 1813. The allied army numbered 250,000 men and the French about 150,000. This



Joseph Bonaparte.

great contest has been called the Battle of the Nations. At the end of three days, Napoleon was completely routed. The allied armies invaded France, swept everything before them, and Paris, being unable to defend itself against them, surrendered. The victorious hosts passed through her gates, March 31, 1814.

Feeling that all hope was gone, Napoleon abdicated, that is surrendered his crown. It is said he took poison, but it failed of effect. He was sent as an exile to the island of Elba in the Mediterranean, and all Europe for

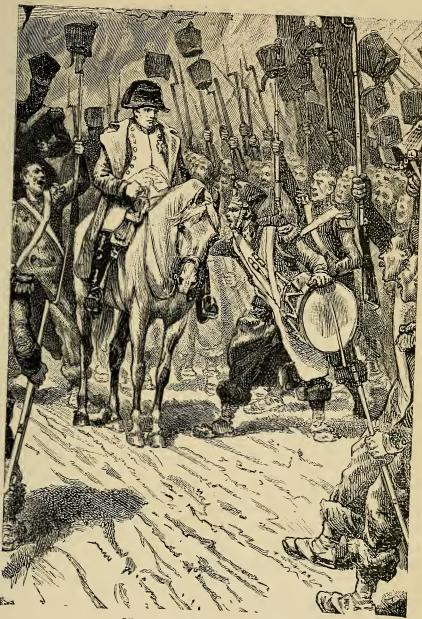
the first time in years breathed freely

But lo! on March 1, 1815, Napoleon escaped with the help of friends, and reached France. His arrival caused consternation to the royalists and the wildest joy to the populace who still worshipped him. Marshal Ney (na), who had been sent to arrest the usurper, deserted to him, and when the troops were drawn up with orders to shoot their "Little Corporal," he walked out in front of them, folded his arms and called: Who dares to shoot at his emperor?" The men rushed forward and almost smothered him in their frantic embraces. The whole nation went mad, and he entered Paris on the 20th of March amid scenes of joy and enthusiasm, such as that impulsive city has rarely seen in its long and stirring history.

After the surrender of Paris, a provisional government had been formed, and the brother of Louis XVI. was placed on the throne, with the title of Louis XVIII. (You remember that the Dauphin who was Louis XVIII. had died), and the Bourbon family was formally restored May 3, 1814. It was while a congress of the European Powers at Vienna were engaged in settling the affairs of Europe, that it received news of the escape of Napoleon

from Elba.

Louis XVIII. fled on the approach of the ogre, who in less than two months found himself again on the throne of France, with an army of 200,000 men without the National Guard. The allies prepared for the impending conflict. Three immense armies were formed. The first consisted of Austrians; the second of British, Germans and Prussians, and the third of Russians. On Sunday,



Napoleon's Return from Elba.

Throwing open his surtout so as to show the star of the Legion of Honor, Napoleon exclaimed: "If there be among you a soldier who desires to kill his general—his Emperor—let him do it now. Here I am!"

June 18, 1815, was fought the battle of Waterloo, where the allies under the Duke of Wellington routed the French and drove them into precipitous flight. Napoleon fled to Paris, but seeing the uselessness of further resistance, he made his way to the coast and surrendered to a British ship of war. He was sent as a captive to the little island of St. Helena, where he arrived in October, 1815, and was closely guarded until his death, May 5, 1821. Thus ended perhaps the most extraordinary career in the annals of the world.

#### CHAPTER XIX.

HOUSE OF BOURBON (RESTORED).—1815–1830.

## Louis XVIII.—Charles X.

You will remember that Louis XVIII. was a brother of Louis XVI., whom the revolutionists executed. The former was about a year younger than the latter, and was originally known as the Count de Provence. He fought with the allies against the republicans, but his services amounted to little. Having fled from France upon the approach of Napoleon after his escape from Elba, he came back a second time and entered Paris July 9, 1815, two days behind the British and Prussians. He dated his accession from the time of the death of his nephew Louis XVII., in 1795, making what was really the first year the twentieth of his reign. Thus Napoleon Bona-



Plight of Napoleon After the Battle of Waterloo.

While the French were flying in the utmost confusion, Blücher and Wellington met at the farmhouse of La Belle Alliance, and the Prussians cagerly undertook to continue the pursuit during the night, while the English general halted to refresh his weary men.

parte was treated as a usurper not worth taking into account, and yet you have learned that the "Little Corporal" made matters very lively for the crowned heads of

Europe.

The new king was a true Bourbon, who forgot nothing and learned nothing. He was a believer in the divine right of kings, but he was obliged to bow at first to the will of the people, in some respects. When he first ascended the throne, he granted a liberal charter, which

he had to bind himself to respect.

The Royalists did not know how to be magnanimous in their day of triumph. Marshal Ney, one of the bravest men that ever lived, who had been a prominent actor on the side of Napoleon after his escape from Elba, and several other generals that had fought on a score of bloody battlefields were shot for their devotion to the fallen Emperor. Ney had sworn to support the Bourbon dynasty and then deserted it. According to the laws of war, his execution was just, but all Europe sympathized with him and the Duke of Wellington made a special appeal in his favor.

Perhaps you have read accounts that appear from time to time in the newspapers, declaring that Marshal Ney was not executed, but was permitted to escape and that he made his way to the United States, where he lived for a good many years, engaged as a teacher in the South. Some of these accounts were so full, and supported by such good testimony that it was hard to doubt their truth. We should all be glad to believe that Marshal Ney, the "Bravest of the brave" was thus spared to old age, but it is not likely that he was.

At the conclusion of a war, the rule is to make the conquered nation pay an "indemnity" to the victor. This is a good law, and if the indemnity were made ten

times more grievous, it would be still better, for it would tend to discourage the business of wholesale murder. In addition to an immense bill for damages, France was now compelled to pay \$140,000,000 to the allies, to surrender a number of frontier fortresses, and to support at her own expense a border garrison of 150,000 soldiers for three years. These troops, however, were withdrawn before the end of the period named.



Marshal Ney.

Thousands of the Bonapartists were imprisoned and persecuted. The state of affairs was the opposite of that in the United States, at the close of the Civil War in 1865. As soon as the last gun was fired and General Lee surrendered at Appomattox, the North and South became warm friends and not a solitary person was ever executed for fighting against the Union. The fires of mutual hatred burned a long time in France.

In the month of February, 1820, while the Duke of Berry, nephew of the king, was escorting the duchess to their carriage, at the close of the opera, he was stabbed

to death by a wretch, who wished to show his detestation of the Bourbon race. Such crimes always react and the effects are evil in every respect. Sympathy was roused for the Bourbons and the hatred between political parties intensified.

Despite the liberal constitution granted at first by the king, he did not hesitate, being a true Bourbon, to violate its spirit and letter. Individual liberty was suspended, the press was muzzled and the powers of the landed proprietors greatly increased. The Jesuits returned to France and the skies of the Bourbons were radiant with

promise.

The monarchies of Europe were still shivering because of the seeds of democratic principles sown by the French Revolution. People were beginning to think, or rather they continued to think about justice, equal rights and such things that are very troublesome to those who claim to rule by divine right. The Czar of Russia became so uneasy that he persuaded the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia to unite with him in forming the "Holy Alliance," whose avowed purpose was to help the cause of Christianity, as they considered that sacred cause to be, but whose real object was to crush the spread of democratic ideas. In Spain, which has always been one of the most oppressive governments in the world, the people rose against the tyrannous acts of their sovereign Ferdinand VII. France was forced to send an army thither to help the tyrant, and Louis XVIII. naturally grew more oppressive at home. The life of the laboring man became one of drudgery and his lot indeed was a sorry one.

The king was too much of a glutton to restrain his gross appetite. He knew he was injuring himself by over eating, but he would not stop. He was attacked by a dry

erysipelas in his legs, and soon lost the power of walking. Then he became enormously fat, and still gormandizing, died September 16, 1824, at the age of sixty-nine years.

His brother, two years younger, succeeded as Charles X. He proved to be more of a Bourbon than the dead king, who had attempted to give him some good advice, but which



The Duke of Berry.

received no attention. Charles cared nothing for the Charter, but believed his mission to be the restoration of the monarchy with all its hateful privileges. In ancient times, every article touched by the king was regarded with awe and reverence. One belief was that the contact of his hand would cure disease, this being especially true of scrofula, which I presume, because of

that superstition, is sometimes called the "king's evil." Would you believe that Charles X. was fool enough to restore this old custom, at which every sensible person

laughed?

There seemed to be no idiotic lengths to which this monarch did not go, apparently under the belief that it was impossible for him to disgust the people. One of his first acts was to demand that \$200,000,000 should be paid to the nobles who had fled the country during the days of the Republic instead of remaining and fighting for their rights. Then he insisted that the nunneries should be re established, the right of primogeniture—that is of the privileges of parents descending to their first-born—and severe laws to compel men to be good, as if such a thing as law ever made a person good. All these demands were granted by the chambers or ruling body.

These silly and oppressive measures were just what was needed to strengthen the Liberal party which grew rapidly. The only praiseworthy act of France during those times was done abroad. Greece was engaged in a life and death struggle with Turkey, and would have been crushed but for England, Russia and France, whose fleets annihilated that of the Turks at Navarino in 1827, and thus delivered the gallant little country from bondage.

There is none so blind as those who won't see. The National Guard of France was made up mostly of honest, law-loving persons and was looked upon as the one great wall against violence and anarchy. The king issued an order disbanding the National Guard and the people were almost angry enough to break out in open rebellion; but

there had been so much woe and misery by revolts, that they waited and contented themselves with sending more

Liberal members to the Chambers.

Then the king tried to have a law passed forbidding the publication of all newspapers and books which were not approved by his committee. Fortunately the bill failed to become a law, and moreover, he was compelled to make some concessions to the Liberal party, one of which was to remove the Jesuits from the control of the schools and colleges.

Another triumph gained abroad was the conquest, in 1830, of the



Louis XVIII. Advising Charles X.

city of Algiers and the establishment of a flourishing French colony in Northern Africa. It was this military success that gave Charles X. courage to force matters at home. His opposition to the wishes of the people was continually proven by his acts, but in the elections of 1830, the Liberals gained a sweeping victory. It should have been a warning to the bigoted king, but such as he do not know enough to heed a warning of that nature. Instead of bowing to the will of the people, he determined upon a coup d' etat (koo-day-tah').

When the governing power of a country commits a violent, unexpected and unlawful act by which it seizes



Charles X.

the supreme power, it is said to make a coup d' etat.

The king suspended the liberty of the press; dissolved the Liberal legislature, that had just been elected; withdrew the ballot from all except property holders; summoned a new legislature to be elected under the law just proclaimed, and nominated a Council of State, composed of his own partisans.

This daring action was beyond the power of Paris to stand and the people broke out in revolt,

which lasted throughout July 27, 28 and 29, 1830. The royal guard and the Swiss showed great bravery, but they were overcome, and the army refused to fight for the abominated king, who, if he had been blind before, now

saw things as they were. France wanted him no longer, and the only way to save his head was by abdicating, which he proceeded to do in favor of his grandson, the Duke of Bordeaux. His tomfoolery had cost him his throne and 6000 victims either killed or wounded, who

were worth infinitely more than the throne.

Once more the House of Bourbon was snuffed out, and the dethroned king, who had long been accustomed to a wandering life, shook the dust of his native land from his feet, and faced toward England, finally taking up his abode at Holyrood Palace, Edinburgh, where twenty years before he had found an asylum. He removed to different places, and finally died in 1836, from an attack of cholera.

#### CHAPTER XX.

HOUSE OF ORLEANS.—1830-1852.

Louis Philippe—The Republic.

THE father of Louis Philippe was the Duke of Orleans a savage wretch, who, under the name of Philippe Egalite (e-gal'i-te, meaning equality), took a leading part in the excesses of the Revolution, and like many of his associates fell a victim to the guillotine. The son was summoned at the same time to appear before the Committee of Public Safety, but he had sense enough to

get out of reach as fast as he could. He traveled a great deal through European countries and spent several years with two of his brothers in the United States. He was fifty-three years old when crowned, because the prominent men in whom the inhabitants had confidence favored him.

Louis Philippe had done several things that pleased the people. He bore a good character, had favored the views of the Liberals, was simple in his tastes, had educated his boys in the public schools, and seemed to have the good of the country and people at heart. He promptly accepted the Charter of Rights agreed upon by the Chamber of Deputies and his reign began very promisingly. He was a member of what was called the Bourbon-Orleans family and was often referred to as the "Citizen King."

To understand the events that follow, you must bear in mind that there were four political parties at that time in France. The most determined was the Republicans, who believed that the best form of government in the world was that of the United States (and therein they showed their good sense); they favored a republic and were sure that the right thing to do with kings was to bundle them off about their business and let them earn their living like honest folks, instead of trying to rule those who were abler and better than they.

Then there were the Bonapartists. Frenchmen could not forget the glory that wrapped that name in a halo, but they did forget the woe and misery and wretchedness and humiliation brought to France by that colossal curse, whose career was a blight to humanity, and they

dreamed of the restoration of the Empire and the splendor that had dazzled their senses. They advocated the

placing of a member of the Bonaparte family on the throne. There were plenty of Bonapartists then and you can find them in France to-day, though not in sufficient numbers to make trouble.

The Constitutionalists supported the king and favored a monarchy, limited by a constitution like that of England. Finally, there were the Legitimists who believed that the most heavenly form of government that ever blessed mankind was that of the Bourbons, just as it tormented the people before the Revolution and had



Louis Philippe.

at intervals cursed them since.

As I said, everything looked promising, but the French are the most excitable people in the world, ready to

19-Ellis' France.

appeal to revolution at all times in support of their views, and often swayed by blind impulse and passion. Several ominous incidents showed the bitterness between the political parties. You remember that the Duke of Berry was assassinated. The Legitimists were holding a service in memory of him, when a vicious attack was made upon the church by the Republicans and rabble, the crucifix, the priests' vestments and the communion plate were thrown into the Seine and the archbishop's residence was gutted. Several other outbreaks occurred and how do you suppose the authorities quelled them?

Naturally you think it was by grapeshot, or the sabres of the mounted cavalry, but it was very different. The fire engines were called out and the hose squirted such big streams upon the howling mob that their passions were cooled and they were sent scurrying in every direction to dodge the deluge. It was impossible for the king to please all parties, and the rancor on the part of the Republicans was shown by several desperate attempts to assassinate him. More than once he had a remarkable

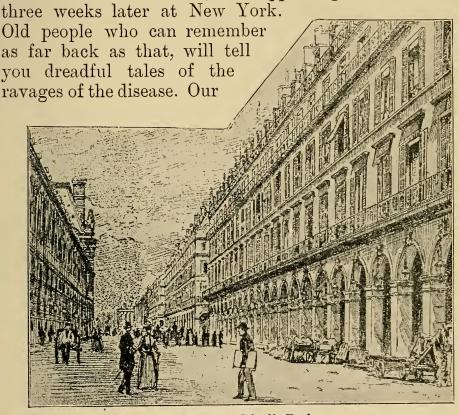
escape.

The year 1832 is memorable because of the first visitation of Europe by that dreadful pestilence, cholera. It attracted attention in the East in the early part of the century, and kept creeping toward Europe. In 1828 and 1829, it appeared in different places in Russia, but as I have said, its first real visitation was in 1832. Cholera attacks a person without warning and it often happens that within two hours of the attack, he is dead. In the space of six months 20,000 victims died in Paris alone,

and many entire villages were left without a living

person.

Three months after its appearance in France, the disease crossed the Atlantic, first appearing at Quebec, and



The Rue de Rivoli, Paris.

country at the time was engaged in the Black Hawk War, and so many soldiers died from cholera that General Scott had to stop the campaign until the cooler weather of autumn.

There was continual plotting against the king, and naturally severe laws were made by him and his friends for their protection. Some of the papers were so abusive that rightly enough they were suppressed, but this power was often used unjustly to prevent the expression of

honest opinions.

Among the plotters against the king was a miserable fraud, of whom I may as well tell you something in this place, since he is soon to come prominently forward again; I refer to Charles Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, son of Louis Bonaparte, ex-king of Holland and brother of the great Napoleon. He was born in Paris in 1808, but had not one spark of the ability of his uncle, who overturned and created new empires at his pleasure. Nevertheless, although banished from France, Louis Napoleon and a few of his friends made an attempt in 1836, to seize the fortress of Strasburg, believing that because the town was not specially fond of the existing government, it would rally around the name of Napoleon.

The attempt was a ridiculous failure, and Napoleon himself was captured, taken to Paris and spared on condition that he should be sent to the United States. Some persons might wonder why it was that France, after proving so good a friend to us in our Revolution, should thus show her ill will. He spent several years in this country, and at times had hard work to earn his bread and butter, but all the time he was watching matters in France, thinking about his uncle, and never forgetful of the fact that he

really had a right to the name of Bonaparte.

Biding his time, he took up his residence in England

in the latter part of 1838, and, in 1840, determined to make another attempt to gain the French throne. He hired a London steamer, the City of Edinburgh, and with

fifty-five associates, landed August 6, near Boulogne (boo-lon') and summoned the troops to surrender or join him. Only one man surrendered, a young lieutenant of the 42d regiment, who tried to persuade the others to imitate him, but they refused. The National Guard beat to arms, and the tame eagle with which the Prince had provided himself could not be coaxed to make its impressive flight in air, and thus fire the enthusiasm of the soldiers by appealing to



Napoleon III.

their memories of the eagles of the great Napoleon.

The "nephew of his uncle" concluded that the time had come to retreat, and he started in haste for his steamer, but he was captured before he could get away. The leaders were taken to Paris, put on trial and convicted of treason. The prince was sentenced to perpetual imprisonment in a fortress and confined in the citadel of Ham.

One day, after he had been a prisoner for six years, he put on the disguise of a workman, and, succeeding in eluding the vigilance of the guards, made his escape May 25, 1846. He crossed the frontier into Belgium,

and for the third time took refuge in England, where he remained until the revolution of 1848, of which we shall now learn.

In 1846, the Queen of Spain married her cousin, and her sister at the same time married the youngest son of



Rebellion, 1848.

the king of France. In this way the Spanish and French Bourbons were closely joined, much to the dissatisfaction of England, which saw danger of an extension of the power of Louis Philippe to Spain. The liberals of France were also displeased, for they believed evil would come from the alliance.

The discontent increased. Most of the people were still without the ballot, and began to clamor for the same rights that had been given to the workmen in Eng-

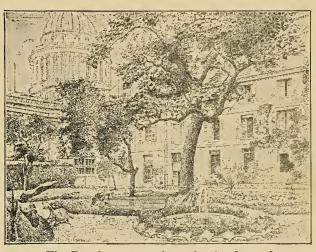
land. Meetings were held at which fiery speeches were made, and a grand banquet was arranged for Washington's birthday, February 22, 1848. The government attempted to repress this banquet, whereupon the enraged populace rose in rebellion. When the troops joined the the mob, the king thought it was time to flee and he did

so, making his escape to England where he died two

years later.

The king being out of the way, a provisional government was formed, consisting of seven members, and France was declared a republic with the motto, "Liberty,

Equality and Fraternity." Distinctions of nobility and hereditary titles were abolished and a national assembly was called for the purpose of framing a constitution. The one adopted vested the government in a president, to be elected for a term of four years, and



The Pantheon, seen from the Gardens of the Lycée of Henry IV.

a national assembly. Louis Napoleon was elected by a

large majority first president of the republic.

In accepting this apparent proof of the confidence of his fellow citizens, he declared, "My name is a symbol of order, nationality and glory." He was crafty and ambitious. Knowing that a large number viewed him with distrust, he took every possible means of removing the feeling. He complained of the injustice of such suspicions and sought to strengthen his hold upon the French nation, more especially the soldiery, by reviving, when-

ever the chance offered, the most agreeable memories of his uncle's rule.

Meanwhile, in Italy a revolution had broken out and the people were engaged in a struggle to free themselves from the Austrian yoke. A revolt in Rome was so suc-



Street Singers, Paris.

cessful that the Pope fled, and under the leadership of Garibaldi and Mazzini (mat-zee'ne), a republic was declared. It is said that Louis Napoleon had pledged himself to favor Italian liberty, but such pledges counted for naught when his own interests were at stake. He sent a strong force to crush the Roman republic and reinstate the Pope, and by that means, he gained the warm support of the Church.

One of the provisions

of the new constitution was the wise one that the president of the republic could not again be a candidate until he had been out of office for at least one term. Thus, Louis Napoleon after serving his first term would have to wait until 1856, which he could not bring himself to do. But how could he help himself? Ah, there was the coup d' etat. Why not appeal to that?

He made careful and secret preparations. He filled

the most important offices with those upon whom he could depend; created new generals, cultivated the good will of the army and promised rewards where they were likely to be effective. Learning that the Assembly was about to take measures to check his growing influence, he



Le Pont-Neuf, Paris.

made his first move at midnight, December 1, 1851, when his most prominent opponents in the Legislature were taken from their beds and hurried to prison. Placards had been prepared and when Paris awoke the next morning, the city was white with them.

These announced that the Legislative Assembly was dissolved; universal suffrage restored; a new general election called for December 14, Paris and the suburbs were in a state of siege and the Council of State dissolved.

The plans were so perfect that the slight resistance

made amounted to nothing. A new constitution was proclaimed, which not only added greatly to the powers of the president but extended his term to ten years. The people accepted, for most of them were disgusted with the continual wrangling in the National Assembly from which no good had resulted.

Thus matters stood for about a year. In the autumn of 1852, Louis Napoleon made tours through several of the departments of France, and when he returned his friends insisted that the cries of "Vive L' Empereur!" which greeted him everywhere left no doubt of the wishes of the people, and it was proposed that the question of restoring the empire should be submitted to the country.

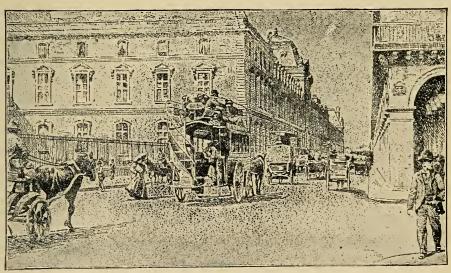
This proposal was accepted, and when the vote was counted, it was found that the French nation had declared in favor of the restoration of the empire by a majority of 6,000,000. Accordingly the empire was proclaimed December 2, 1852, the Prince assuming the style and title of "Napoleon III., Emperor of the French, by the grace of God and the will of the people." He was recognized by the English government, afterward by the other Powers, and finally by the Emperor of Russia and the German sovereigns.

#### CHAPTER XXI.

### THE SECOND EMPIRE—1852-1870.

# Napoleon III.

NDER Napoleon III. it looked for a time as if the splendor and magnificence of the First Empire were to be restored. Paris was almost rebuilt on a scale of grandeur that made it the wonder of the world and



The Louvre as seen from the Rue Marengo.

drew admiring visitors from all quarters of the globe. The metropolis was completely sewered and became a model of cleanliness and health and other cities followed

her example. The Louvre was completed; boulevards were cut through; new ones made; schools and churches sprang up in all quarters; gardens and promenades were



A Cabaret in Montmartre, Paris.

laid out and immense improvements were carried on in the construction of railways, canals, roads and ports.

No industry was neglected. Boards of agriculture were organized, and agricultural prizes offered in order to spread the best methods

among farmers and breeders. Institutions for their benefit were founded, forests were renewed on the mountains and the division and sales of common lands helped in every way. The sum of \$20,000,000 was appropriated to improve the systems of draining, and thousands of acres that had long been considered to be waste lands were turned into fertile fields for culture. The public schools were perfected, and elementary instruction in agriculture was required in all of them. In fifteen years, the number of children who received primary instruction was increased by a million, and 13,000 school libraries

were established. The pay of teachers was increased and the standard of their qualifications raised. Hundreds of evening schools for the instruction of adults were founded;

technical schools established and the Ecole des Hautes Etudes (ä-kol da zote-za tude) instituted for advanced scientific researches. Through the Credit Foncier the landed proprietors were enabled to improve their property and raise their mortgages more easily. The Credit Mobilier extended credit more rapidly than was wise, for many fail-

Law School, Paris.

State wished to contract a loan, instead of applying solely to the bankers, it invited the citizens to become subscribers. Following the example of England, free trade was established and commercial treaties on that basis were made with England, Italy, Belgium, Turkey and other countries. For a long time imprisonment for debt was a common penalty but that was now wiped out. The World's Exhibitions held in

ures resulted.

and when the

Paris in 1855 and in 1867, were patronized by the leading nations of the globe and gave a powerful impulse to all forms of industry. In order to strengthen foreign commerce, the government aided in the establishment of new lines of steamers to America and from the Mediterranean ports to Asia. A natural result was that the annual amount of exportations and importations tripled in the course of twelve years. The rights of workmen to combine for the purpose of securing higher wages was recognized by law, and pauperism and crime were greatly diminished. Paris became the head of fashion for the civilized world, and the Mecca of all who looked upon pleasure and enjoyment as the end and aim of life.

Was not France under the Second Empire the ideal of the highest and best form of government? Why should it not serve as the model for other peoples? Why should it not be forever a beacon light and guide to all nations

struggling toward the perfection of human rule?

I tell you, my young friends, no nation can become and remain truly great, happy and prosperous, unless it clings immovably to pure Christianity. It may attain power and glory, and for a time dazzle the world by its splendor, but, just so sure as night follows day, so sure will ruin follow, if that nation forsakes the principles of truth, right, justice and humanity. The history of France, from the time of the Gauls, to say nothing of other nations, has proven this times almost without number.

Napoleon III. was selfish, base and wicked, and those associated with him in the government were the same. His court was corrupt to the core, and underneath all the apparent

prosperity were the rapidly growing seeds of decay. The fountain was impure, the tree was rotten at the root, the professed Christianity was blasphemous hypocrisy, the rulers were following strange gods and now observe the consequences.

Russia has been



Schoolboys Leaving the Lycée.

for many years, as she is to-day the great Power that threatens the peace of Europe. Wise men prophesy that the final mighty struggle for mastery will open on the frontier of India between Russia and Great Britain and before it ends all Europe will be ablaze. The advance of Russia into Turkey led to an alliance in 1854 between France and England on the side of Turkey. It looked strange to see those old rivals and enemies united as friends. In September the allies, 70,000 strong, landed on the shores of the Crimea and began the siege of Sebastopol. This siege, lasting almost a year, was accompanied by suffering, disease and death, which made

it the most terrible in the history of modern warfare. The city fell in September, 1855, and a few months later the Emperor, Nicholas, died, disappointed and almost



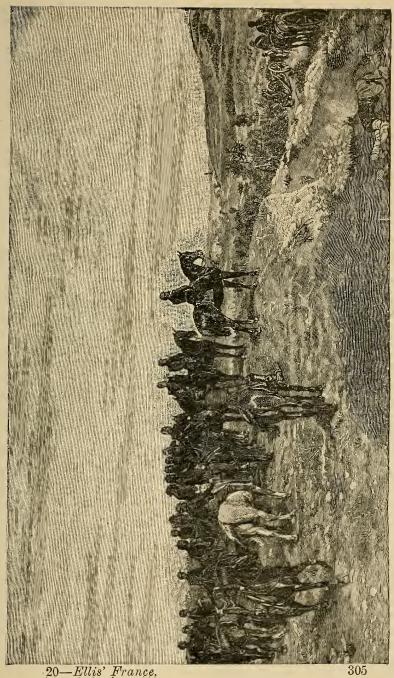
Left Wing of Opera House, Paris.

broken hearted over the failure of his farreaching schemes. Peace was made, and Turkey, "the sick man of Europe," unfortunately was preserved to continue its crimes.

Napoleon III. declared war against Austria in 1859, with the avowed purpose of helping Italy in her struggle for independence. The war was very popular, but the Emperor

thought only of his own interests. It was successful and would have been pressed to the end but for the threatened interference of Prussia and Germany on the side of Austria. This led Napoleon III. to make peace, and in payment for his help he received the provinces of Savoy and Nice.

I suppose one reason why many of us Americans so dislike the memory of Napoleon III. is because he was our most malignant enemy during the War for the Union.



Napoleon III. at the Battle of Solferino.

The Austrians were defeated successively at Montebello, at Palestro, at Magenta, at Marignano, and at Solferino. On these occasions the armies of France and Sardinia, which were under the personal direction of their respective sovereigns, fought side by side with the avowed intention of liberating Northern Italy.

He was anxious to see this country destroyed, and tried all he knew how to persuade England to join him in recognizing the Southern Confederacy. Finally, a dispute

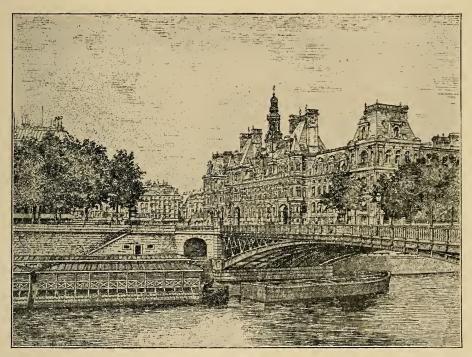


The Medici Fountain, Luxembourg Garden, Paris.

with Mexico led him to believe that, while our hands were tied with our own war, we should not dare to interfere with a flagrant violation of the Monroe Doctrine by him. So he sent a French army into Mexico and persuaded Maximilian of Austria that there would be little difficulty in establishing an empire there, with Maximilian as Emperor. Our government thought it best to let the intruders alone until we were through with our own troubles. That was not long, and notice was then

sent to Napoleon III. that he and his army must get out of Mexico. He knew that such notice meant "business," and he abandoned his dupe, Maximilian to his fate. The Mexicans pressed the war so hard against the invaders that they were routed, and Maximilian and his two leading generals were captured in 1867 and shot. That was the end of Louis Napoleon's attempt to found a French empire on the American continent.

Vicompte Ferdinand de Lesseps (la-seps'), born at Versailles in 1805, an eminent engineer, completed, in 1869, the Suez Canal, which joins the waters of the Mediterranean and the Red Sea. The original capital of



Hotel de Ville, Paris.

\$60,000,000 was increased to \$90,000,000, and on November 17, the canal was opened to commerce, in the presence of the Empress Eugenie, and other crowned heads. On that memorable day, 130 ships passed through free of toll. The Suez Canal has proven of immeasurable benefit to the world at large, for vessels, which formerly had to sail around the Cape of Good Hope to reach India

and China, now save thousands of miles by using the canal.

You remember the terrific beating which Germany suffered at the hands of Napoleon Bonaparte. The wounds did not heal after his death on St. Helena, and another war was one of the certainties of the future. Germany spent years in preparing for it. Bismarck, the greatest statesman of modern times, was the real power in Germany, and he laid his plans with consummate skill. He, King William and Von Moltke meant that when the time came to strike, they would strike with the fabled hammer of Thor. There were scores of German teachers employed in the schools of France, who made themselves familiar with the streams, strength of the bridges, the "lay of the land," the military power of the country, and indeed with everything that could be of help to their government.

There was continual friction, but the rupture did not come until 1870. In that year, the vacant throne of Spain was offered to Prince Leopold, an officer of the Prussian army, and a relative of the Prussian King, who told him he might accept it. Napoleon III. flared up, as perhaps he was justified in doing, and Leopold seeing the trouble that was likely to come, like a sensible fellow withdrew his name. Surely that ought to have ended the matter, but Napoleon III. had no more sense or good taste than to demand from the King of Prussia a written pledge that he never would support Leopold as a candidate for

the Spanish throne.

Count Bismarck, the Prussian Prime Minister, re-

garded this demand as an insult and refused to lay it before his King. Some time later, the French Ambassador (Count Benedetti who died March 28, 1900) meeting the

King in a public park, haughtily insisted upon his giving the pledge. The brusque old monarch told the Frenchman that that was not the time nor place to consider the question, and notified the impudent Ambassador that he would not be allowed to enter the palace, or meet the Emperor again.

Then it was Napoleon's turn to consider himself insulted, and he declared war on July 19, 1870. The step was popular, and only those who



Count Bismarck.

knew the facts looked for any result other than the defeat of the Prussians. Empress Eugenie clapped her gloved hands and exultingly declared "This is my war!" and her misguided subjects raised the war cry, "On to Berlin!" Napoleon III. placed himself at the head of a body of troops, and marching northward, made his head-quarters at Metz, from which city he intended to cross the Rhine into Germany.

But lo! before that could be done, the Germans were in France and marching straight upon Paris! Their armies were numerous and powerful, they were led by the ablest of officers, and were in the highest state of discipline. The French were poorly equipped, poorly dis-

ciplined and poorly led.

The fighting soon began, and the superiority of the invaders instantly showed itself. Marshal MacMahon was forced back toward Chalons (shal-on'), with his army of 160,000 men, and Marshal Bazaine, after a furious struggle, was driven tumultuously behind the fortifications of Metz, to which the Germans immediately laid siege. Cooped up there, Bazaine could not help himself nor do France any good. Napoleon III. ordered MacMahon to march to his relief, but the Germans kept him away, and it was only by desperate work that he managed to reach Sedan (suh-dang) in northeastern France, where he was attacked on the 1st of September and completely routed. MacMahon surrendered 80,000 prisoners of war and one of them was Napoleon III. When the news reached Paris, the legislature declared the Emperor deposed and France a Republic. Thus the Second Empire was blotted out.

The German armies advanced upon Paris and besieged it from September 19, 1870 to January 30, 1871, during which food became so scarce that the people lived on dogs, cats, rats, and finally ate the wild beasts in the Zoological Gardens. The weather was intensely cold, and the trees in the parks and boulevards were cut down to keep the wretched inhabitants from freezing. A provisional government had been organized for defense, but the end was inevitable. When it became a choice between surrender and starvation, a preliminary treaty of peace was signed February 26, 1871, by which France agreed to give up German-speaking Lorraine, the fortress

of Metz, all of Alsace, and to pay an indemnity of \$1,-000,000,000, a German army to remain on French soil until the debt was paid.

Paris was further humiliated on the 1st of March by the sight of a large German force entering the city and passing under the magnificent arch, which Napoleon the

Great had reared to commemorate his victories.

But the cup of misery was not yet full. The German army which had occupied Versailles withdrew, and the provisional government which Thiers (tee-air') had established, moved to that city. Then the Communists closed the gates of Paris, and uniting with the National Guard, took possession of the city and held it for more than two months. Proud Paris was given over to plunder, violence



Marshal Bazaine.

and crime, like that under the Reign of Terror. The Communists believe in no government, and insist that no man has the right to own property, which ought to be held in common. The churches were closed, the nuns and sisters of charity driven out, and the Vendome (vondome') Column erected in honor of the wars of Napoleon I. was pulled down.

These men declared that France had been betrayed by the Thiers government, because of the treaty it signed with Germany. They made several attacks on Versailles and a number were taken prisoners. The Communists seized the aged Archbishop Darboy, and more than sixty priests and public citizens, under the pretense of holding them as hostages. Instead of doing so, they deliberately murdered every one.

As was always the case, the most bloody and merciless of the Communists were the women, and hundreds of boys, some of them of tender years, followed their

frightful examples.

The Versailles government was not powerful enough to move against Paris until the return of the exchanged soldiers. Then, on the 21st of May, Marshal MacMahon succeeded in forcing his way into the city. In their mad fury the Commune determined to destroy Paris. In the Cathedral of Notre Dame and other churches, barrels of gunpowder were piled and men, women and children with cans of petroleum to feed the flames ran pell mell to all the public buildings and drenched them with the inflammable fluid. The troops, by the hardest work, prevented this wholesale destruction, but the palace of the Tuileries, the Hotel de Ville (d-vili) and many other structures were laid in ashes.

The Communists were routed from their barricades and gathered for their last stand in the principal cemetery, where they were mowed down with musketry and grapeshot. In the brief, horrible reign of the Commune, fully 20,000 people were killed and property to the value of a hundred million dollars was destroyed.

Through the aid of friends, Empress Eugenie managed to escape from the city, or she would have been one of the first victims to the fury of the populace. Napoleon III. was held in royal state as a prisoner for a time, and

went to England, for he was too wise ever to set foot on the soil of France again. He died from the effects of a surgical operation in 1873.

Prince Napoleon completed his military education in England, and entered her service in the war against the Zulus in South Africa. One day he and some of his brother officers were surprised by a party of savages in the bush. The young man while running beside his horse and



Summary Execution of a Communist.

trying to mount, was pierced by the assagais or spears of the pursuing Zulus and killed. At this writing (1901) his mother, a gray, aged, decrepit and broken-hearted woman is still living, and none can think of her past and present without a feeling of sympathy, for the contrast could not be greater nor more sorrowful.

### CHAPTER XXII.

THE THIRD REPUBLIC—1870.

Committee of Public Defense—Thiers—MacMahon— Grevy—Carnot—Perier—Faure—Loubert. (1870–1901).

THE Commune having been stamped out, the question was as to what government should assume charge of France. The National Assembly was divided. The Legitimists wished that the direct line of Bourbons should be summoned to the throne in the person of Count Chambord, grandson of Charles X., called by his friends Henry V. The Orleanists desired the restoration of the limited monarchy in the person of the Count of Paris, grandson of Louis Philippe, or the Duke d' Aumale son of Louis Philippe, while the Bonapartists favored the young Prince Napoleon.

Although the Assembly was often involved in controversy with its president, L. A. Thiers, it was so generally felt that he was the strongest man, that on the last day of August, 1871, he was elected President of the Republic

to last as long as the present Assembly.

The presence of the German soldiers on the soil of France was so irritating that the nation resolved to pay the indemnity at the earliest possible day and thus rid themselves of them. When subscriptions were asked, they were made far in excess of the vast sum needed,

and the last German soldier left the country in Septem-

ber, 1873.

A bill for the thorough reorganization of the army was passed in July, 1872, for the tremendous lesson of the last war was burned into the mind of every one. At the close of the following year, a court martial sentenced Marshal Bazaine to death for the surrender of Metz, but this sentence was changed



Louis Adolphe Thiers.

to imprisonment for a term of twenty years. With the aid of his wife, he effected his escape in 1874, and some years later died abroad.

The Bonapartist cause was made hopeless in 1873 by the death of Napoleon III. After a long and earnest debate, the Assembly on May 24, 1873, voted against the views of Thiers, who thereupon resigned, and on the same day Marshal MacMahon was elected by the Assembly to succeed him as President. He was an honest old soldier and not a politician and commanded the respect of all. In answer to his request for an extension of powers, his term in November, 1873, was made seven years, but the warring factions were unable to decide for a long time whether the future form of government should be that of a republic or monarchy. On the 30th of January, 1875, however, after a prolonged and bitter discussion, it was decided by a majority of one vote that it should be a republic. Then a permanent constitution was framed, by which the legislative power was vested in the assemblies—the Senate and Chamber of Deputies. The Senate was to be composed of three hundred members, two hundred and twenty-five of whose terms were nine years, one-third retiring by rotation every three years. The remaining seventy-five were to be chosen for life by the National Assembly. The members of the Chamber of Deputies were to be elected by universal suffrage and were dependent upon the population. Thus you will notice that the organization was similar to our Senate and House of Representatives. The term of the President was fixed at seven years. His office resembled that of a constitutional monarch, and in some respects that of the President of the United States.

The sessions of the governing bodies of France have often been stormy and exciting and there have been much wrangling and diversity of views. The elections of 1879 convinced President MacMahon that it was impossible to

maintain harmonious relations among the parties and on January 30 of that year he resigned his office. On the same day, the Senate and Chamber, sitting as the Na-

tional Assembly elected M. Jules Grevy (gra-ve'), a moderate Republican as his successor for the full term of seven years. Among the important acts of his administration were the forcible closing of the establishments of the Jesuits and others, to the number of nearly three hundred, and the passage of laws for the extension of public education.

In the spring of 1881, a military force from Algeria entered Tunis under the pretext



Count Von Moltke.

of punishing the tribes on the Tunisian frontier for depredations; and, occupying the capital, compelled the Bey to sign a treaty by which he placed his country under the protectorate of France. Little or no protest was made against the act by the other Powers with the exception of Italy who was so indignant that she has as yet not fully recovered from it.

In 1879, the Khedive of Egypt became involved in financial trouble and the financial administration of his country was placed in the hands of two controllers, appointed by England and France respectively, for the protection of the citizens of those countries who were the

holders of Egyptian bonds. In 1882, the difficulties between the Khedive and his council caused England and France to determine to intervene in behalf of their threatened interests, but after lengthy negotiations, the intervention was left to England alone and France was ousted from all share in the Dual Control.

In 1882, France resented the encroachments upon her rights in northwestern Madagascar by the leading tribe of that island. In the following year, the French Admiral commanding the squadron in the Indian Ocean, demanded that the northwestern part of Madagascar should be placed under a French protectorate, and that a large indemnity should be paid. The demand was refused by the Queen, whereupon the city of Tomatave was bombarded. In the summer of that year, the natives signally defeated a French expedition, and a treaty was signed by which the foreign relations of the island were placed under the control of France, while the Queen paid certain claims and retained control of internal affairs.

By a treaty made in August, 1883, with Annam, a province was ceded to France and a French protectorate was established over Annam and Tonquin, though hostilities did not cease for a long time afterward. Difficulties with China led to a treaty in June, 1885, which arranged for the evacuation of Formosa by the Chinese, with the future diplomatic relations of Annam to be through France, which was to have virtual control over that and Tonquin. These several affairs did not result satisfactorily to France and eventually led to the downfall of the ministry which ordered them.

There was no end to the wrangling and political disputes. Scandals came to the surface and the honesty of many men in high places was attacked. In 1887,

M. Daniel Wilson, son-in-law of M. Grevy, was proven to have been concerned in selling public offices for money. The attempts of M. Grevy to shield his relative brought about his own enforced retirement. He was so hard pressed by the chambers that he resigned the presidency of the Republic on December 2, 1887.

After many attempts at election, the parties united upon Marie F. S. Carnot (karnoh'), a Republican of high



Marshal MacMahon.

integrity, who commanded the respect of the country. He was a distinguished engineer and a grandson of the Carnot, who as minister of war, rendered good services to the armies during the French Revolution.

On May 5, 1889, the one-hundredth anniversary of the Assembly of the States-General was celebrated with impressive ceremonies at Versailles. The Universal Exhibition at Paris, the greatest ever held in France down to that time, was formally opened the following day by President Carnot.

France has always been a hot-bed of anarchists and plotters against all forms of government, and they committed many outrages in Paris in 1892. One of the execrable miscreants effected the assassination of President Carnot at Lyon on June 24, 1894. Jean Casimir Perier (pa-re'ai) was elected his successor three days later, and held office until January 17, 1895, when he was succeeded by Felix Francois Faure (fohr), who in turn was succeeded by

Emile Loubet (loo-bay') elected February 18, 1899.

You remember the great achievement of Ferdinand de Lesseps in the construction of the Suez Canal. The same distinguished engineer undertook to build a canal across the Isthmus of Panama, but in 1889, the company went to pieces after squandering the enormous sum of \$350,000,000, most of which were subscriptions from people who could ill afford to bear the loss. The attempts to revive the hopeless scheme resulted in disclosures which showed that gigantic frauds had been committed, scores of trusted officials having made enormous fortunes by the most shameless stealing, which involved all classes. The mention of the Panama Scandals to-day will cause any honest Frenchman to blush.

The Dreyfus scandal is of such recent date, that all are acquainted with its particulars. In January, 1895, Captain Dreyfus (dre'fus) was condemned for treason and sentenced to life imprisonment on the horrible South American waste known as Devil's Island. It gradually became so apparent that he was the victim of despicable wretches in high station, that the government was forced in very shame to bring him back to France and give him a new trial, the result of which in 1899, was his complete exoneration from guilt and his restoration to his family

and friends.

Another result was the proof that among the highest officers in the army and of the government, including even the judiciary, were as villainous a set of rascals as

ever went unhanged. Dreyfus was a Jew and his ruin was plotted by others who thought it necessary in order to hide their own infamous crimes.

France joined the leading civilized nations in suppressing the formidable "Boxer" uprising in China in the summer of 1900, and acted a prominent part in the adjustment of the troubles in the Celestial Empire in which the whole world was interested.



M. Jules Grevy.

France has long held the foremost rank in science, literature and invention. In the last-named field, she has never been surpassed, while her achievements in science have benefited the whole civilized world. Froissart's chronicles of the fourteenth century are a vivid picture of the wars of the English and French. Comines, who wrote in the fifteenth century, was one of the first true historians of his country. The writings of Rabelais, Ronsard, Amyot, and Montaigne added force and terseness to the French language. The Académie Francaise was established in 1634, and during that period, Corneille brought French tragedy to its highest point of grandeur in the classic style of the drama

which he had adopted. The reign of Louis XIV. was made luminous by a series of great names in every branch of literature. Despite the frivolity of the life in



Voltaire.

the higher classes of France, no age produced more vigorous writers or original thinkers. Montesquieu, Voltaire, Rousseau and Buffon, were men of genius, but irreligious in their writings, which had much to do in bringing about the Revolution.

A period of intellectual torpor succeeded the Revolution, which improved only to a slight extent under the Empire. A reaction took place with the productions of the new romantic school as shown by Madame

de Staël and Chateaubriand, which were soon followed by numerous others, either of the same, or the rival classical school. Among the numerous young and original writers who acquired reputation in poetry, dramatic art and fiction, were Victor Hugo, the greatest of modern French poets; Alfred de Vigny, Fréderic Soulie and A. Dumas, the elder, an amazingly prolific novel writer. George Sand (Madame Dudevant) was one of the most eloquent authors of the country. The vivid portraiture of the concealed miseries and depravities of social life gave to Eugène Sue a national reputation. Among other famous writers of fiction

may be named Balzac, A. de Mussat, with his dazzling richness of fancy; Jules Sandau, who wrote in conjunction with George Sand; the historian Mérimee; Théophile

Gautier; Paul de Kock; Edmond About; Dumas the younger; Gautier and De Banville, Jules Verne; Daudet and many others who are continually coming into notice. The almost universal blot upon French fiction lies in its intrigue and appeal to the baser passions of our nature. It is the very antipodes of the works of such writers as Sir Walter Scott, Washington Irving, George Eliot, Hawthorne,



Market Place and Garden of the Temple, Paris.

Fenimore Cooper, and the foremost English and American authors.

The chief French historians who have gained a world-wide reputation are Barante, Guizot, Thierry, Sismondi, the late President L. A. Thiers, Louis Blanc, Lamartine, Villemain, Michelet, Martin and Taine.

The great scientific writers of modern France include

in metaphysics and political economy, Victor Cousin, Jouffroy, Simon and Lamennais; and in socialism Comte, St. Simon, Fourier and Leroux; while Chevalier, De



Rousseau.

Tocqueville, Bonald and Laferrière are famed for their brilliant exposition of the jurisprudence of nations and the social and political condition of democracy throughout the world.

New light has been thrown on the origin of races and languages by the profound researches into Egyptian hieroglyphics and Semitic literature made by Champollion, Sylvestre de Sacy, Renan, Remusat and Stanislas Julian. Among the greatest mathematicians are

D'Alembert, Laplace, Lagrange, Biot, Ampere and Arago. There are a host of great discoverers in natural history and its kindred sciences, the more distinguished of whom are: Cuvier, Geoffroy and Isidore St. Hilaire, Blainville, Jussieu, D'Orbigny, Haüy, Gay-Lussac, Elie de Beaumont, Milne-Edwards, and Brongniart. No country has ever produced so many elegant essayists and literary critics as France, whose language lends itself more readily to the concise, graceful and forcible style of epigrammatic writing and admits of the highest polish and idiomatic terseness.

At this writing (1901), the annual salary of the President of the French Republic is \$120,000, with an allowance of the same amount for expenses. The number of Senators is 300, of whom 250 are Republicans and the remainder representatives of various shades of opposition.

There are 585 Deputies among whom are represented every possible shade of political sentiment, with the Re-

publicans the most numerous.

The following are the latest statistics:

	_		
COUNTRIES.	Population.	SQUARE MILES.	CAPITALS.
France & Colonies	63,166,967	3,357,856	Paris
France	38,517,975	204,177	Paris
Colonies	21,448,064	2,923,679	
Algeria	3,870,000	260,000	Algiers
Senegal, etc.	183,237	580,000	St. Louis
Tunis	1,500,000	45,000	Tunis
Cayenne	26,502	46,697	Cayenne
Cambodia	1,500,000	$32,\!254$	Saigon
Cochin-China	1,223,000	13,692	
Tonquin	12,000,000	60,000	Hanoi
New Caledonia	62,752	7,624	Noumea
Tahiti	12,800	462	
Sahara	1,100,000	1,550,000	
Madagascar	3,500,000	230,000	Antananarivo.



## SOVEREIGNS OF FRANCE.

#### MEROVINGIANS.

A.D.		A. D.	
418.	Pharamond.	<b>5</b> 95. ∢	Thierry II. (Burgundy.) Theodebert II. (Austrasia.)
428.	Clodion.		
447.	Merovæus.	628.	Dagobert I.
458.	Childeric I.		Sigebert II. (Austrasia.)
481.		638. ⊲	Clovis II. (Soissons and Bur-
401.			gundy.)
	Thierry I. (Austrasia or Metz.)	656.	Clovis II. (France.)
511.	Clodomir. (Orleans.) Childebert I. (Paris.) Clotaire I. (Soissons or Nuestria.)		Clotaire III. (Soissons and Bur-
	Childebert I. (Paris.)	<b>660</b> . ≺	gundy.)
			Childeric II. (Austrasia)
534.	Theodebert I. (Metz.)	670.	Childeric II. (France.)
548.	Theodebald. (Metz.)		Dagobert II. (Austrasia.)
<b>558.</b>	Clotaire I. (France.)		Thierry III. (Soissons and Bur-
(	Caribert. (Paris.)		gundy.)
	Gentran. (Orleans and Bur-	691.	Clovis III. (Nuestria and
561.	gundy.)		Burgundy.)
	Chilperic I. (Soissons.)	695.	Childebert III. (Nuestria and
(	Sigebert I. (Austrasia.)		Burgundy.)
575.	Childebert II. (Austrasia.)	711.	Dagobert III. (Nuestria and
593.	" (Burgundy.)		Burgundy.)
594.	Clotaire II. (Soissons.)	715.	
613.	" (France.)	, 10,	Burgundy.)
	(======		0 ,

A. D.	A. D.
717. Clotaire IV. (Nuestria and	737. (Interregnum) (Nuestria and
Burgundy.)	Burgundy.)
720. Thierry IV. (Nuestria and	742. Childeric III. (Nuestria and
Burgundy.)	Burgundy.)

### CARLOVINGIANS.

A. D		A. D.	
<b>7</b> 52.	Pepin. (The Short.)	884.	Charles the Fat. (Emperor.)
768.	Charles I. Charlemagne. (The	887.	Eudes.
	Great.)	898.	Charles III. (The Simple.)
814.	Louis I. (Le Debonnaire.)	922.	Robert I.
840.	Charles II. (The Bald.)	923.	Rudolph. (Or, Raoul)
877.	Louis II. (The Stammerer.)	936.	Louis IV. (D'Outre mer.)
879.	Louis III. and Carloman.	954.	Lothaire.
882.	Carloman. (Alone.)	984.	Louis V. (Le Fainéant.)

### CAPETIANS.

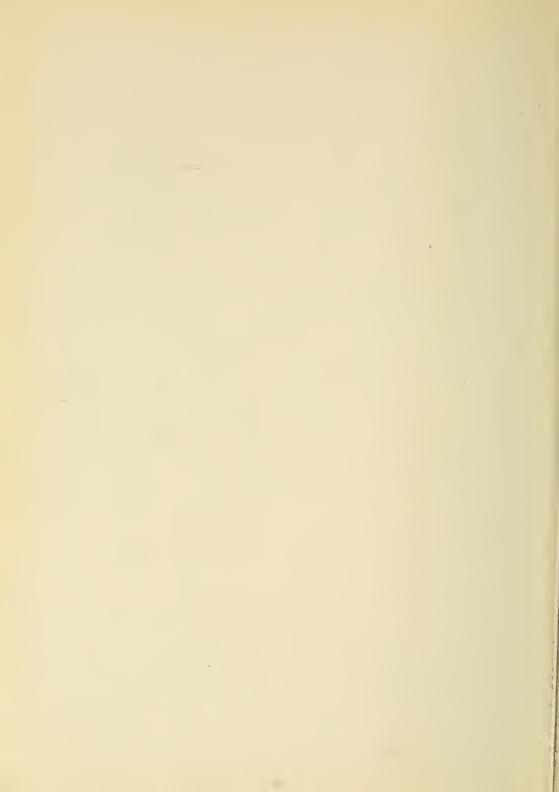
A. D.

A. D.		A. D.	
987.	Hugh Capet.	1226.	Louis IX. (St. Louis.)
<b>9</b> 96.	Robert II.	1270.	Philip III. (The Bold.)
1031.	Henry I.	1285.	Philip IV. (The Fair.)
1060.	Philip I	1314.	Louis X. (The Headstrong.)
1108.	Louis VI. (The Fat.)		(Hutin.)
1137.	Louis VII. (The Young.)	1316.	John I.
1180.	Philip II. (Augustus.)	1316.	Philip V. (The Long.)
1223.	Louis VIII. (The Lion.)	1322.	Charles IV. (The Fair.)

### House of Valois.

A. D.		A. D.	
1328.	Philip VI (De Valois.)	1461	Louis XI.
1350.	John II. (The Good.)	1483.	Charles VIII.
1364.	Charles V. (The Wise.)	1498.	Louis XII.
1380.	Charles VI.	1515.	Francis I.
1422.	Charles VII.	1547.	Henry II.

A. D. A. D. 1574. Henry III. 1559. Francis II. Charles IX. 1560. HOUSE OF BOURBON. A. D. A. D. Henry IV. (Of Navarre.) 1715. Louis XV. (The Well Beloved.) 1589. Louis XIII. (The Just.) 1610. 1774 Louis XVI. 1793. (Only nominally a king.) Louis XIV. (Le Grand.) 1643. THE REPUBLIC. A. D. A. D. Consulate. 1792. Convention. 1799. 1795. Directory. THE EMPIRE. A. D. A. D. Napoleon I. (Again.) 1815. 1804. Napoleon I. Louis XVIII. (King.) 1814. HOUSE OF BOURBON RESTORED. A. D. A. D. 1815. Louis XVIII. 1824. Charles X. HOUSE OF ORLEANS. A. D. A. D. 1848. Republic. 1830. Louis Philippe I. THE SECOND EMPIRE. A. D. Napoleon III. (Charles Louis.) 1852. THE THIRD REPUBLIC. A. D. A. D. Committee of Public Defense. 1887. Marie F. S. Carnot. 1870. 1894. Jean Casimir Perier. 1871. L. A. Thiers. 1895. Felix Francois Faure. Marshal MacMahon. 1873. 1899. Emile Loubet. 1879. Jules Grevy.



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